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# Assembly California Regislature

### Elections, Reapportionment and Constitutional Amendments Committee

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# TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC HEARING ON REDISTRICTING INDENTIFICATION OF COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST MAY 18, 2001

## COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO EDMUND G. BROWN STATE BUILDING FIRST FLOOR AUDITORIUM 505 VAN NESS AVENUE SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94102

### PLEASE NOTE:

The following transcript was prepared by certified shorthand reporters. In order to expedite posting and because the minor errors in transcription do not impede understanding the substance of the testimony, the Committee has not undertaken correction of the transcript. The Committee invites individuals and organizations who made presentations at the hearing to advise it in writing if there are any errors in transcription that they believe alter the substance of their testimony.

1	ELECTIONS, REAPPORTIONMENT AND
2	CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS COMMITTEE
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5	TRANSCRIPT OF
6	PUBLIC HEARING ON REDISTRICTING
7	IDENTIFICATION OF COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST
8	MAY 18, 2001
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11	COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
12	EDMUND G. BROWN STATE BUILDING
13	FIRST FLOOR AUDITORIUM
14	505 VAN NESS AVENUE
15	SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94102
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1 PROCEEDINGS MAY 18, 2001

2 --000--

- 3 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: All right. Call this
- 4 hearing to order, ladies and gentlemen. If you could
- 5 please find seats, if you don't have them already.
- 6 I'm John Longville, I chair the Committee on
- 7 Elections, Reapportionment and Constitutional
- 8 Amendments. And we have with us today Vice-Chairman Roy
- 9 Ashburn, seated on your right, my left. And we have
- 10 also Assembly Member Kevin Shelley approaching the dias,
- 11 who is also a member of the committee. We have a number
- 12 of staff people here. The chief consultant for the
- 13 Committee, Willie Guerrero seated on my left from your
- 14 perspective, and Mr. Doug Yoakam who is the Republican
- 15 consultant for the committee at the end of the dias.
- And with that, let me read you the brief,
- 17 though not as brief as I would like, introductory
- 18 statement that they tell me I need to make sure we have
- 19 covered.
- 20 So thank you for attending this hearing.
- 21 The Assembly is committed to conducting a fair and open
- 22 redistricting process in which members of the public are
- 23 able to have a voice and effective role. This is the
- 24 third in a series of hearings we are holding in various
- 25 locations throughout the state for the purpose of

- 1 gathering public input into the redistricting process.
- 2 And as I presume everybody here knows, we are
- 3 all counted by the Census every ten years.
- 4 Redistricting is the process by which lines are changed
- 5 every ten years after the Census for the Assembly,
- 6 Senate, Board of Equalization and United States House of
- 7 Representatives seats within our state.
- 8 The 2000 Census occurred two years ago --
- 9 excuse me, a year ago. We received the detailed results
- 10 of that Census at the end of March of this year. The
- 11 Census shows both that California has experienced an
- 12 overall increase in population, greater than that of the
- 13 nation as a whole, and that -- greater proportionately,
- 14 and that our population has shifted within the state.
- 15 We now have a population statewide, or we did on Census
- 16 day a year ago, of 33,871,648 people.
- 17 And people also move around the state. It's
- 18 important for us to find out where they are, because
- 19 that determines where district lines should be drawn
- 20 under the 1967 Supreme Court ruling, Baker versus Karr.
- 21 The most basic principle that guides our
- 22 redistricting is the requirement under that ruling, one
- 23 person, one vote, to ensure that everyone has equal
- 24 representation, districts should have an equal
- 25 population.

- 1 For the Assembly, for example, back ten years
- 2 ago, the average population of a seat was 372,000 people
- 3 for one district in the State Assembly. After the
- 4 current Census, the most recent Census, because of the
- 5 increase in population, that population moves up to
- 6 precisely 423,396, or as close as we can get.
- 7 Senate districts double that, which is
- 8 846,791. And the population for a congressional seat
- 9 ideally in California will now be 639,088.
- 10 These changes in population mean that we have
- 11 to redraw the lines for all these districts, and we have
- 12 on display the existing districts in the back of the
- 13 room to give a sense of where they are currently, as we
- 14 undertake the process of redrawing it.
- 15 There are various requirements and guidelines
- 16 from the U.S. Constitution, Federal Voting Rights Act
- 17 and the California Constitution, as well as some
- 18 traditional redistricting principles that we pay
- 19 attention to.
- 20 One of the very important factors is what are
- 21 called "communities of interest." We try to respect the
- 22 integrity of communities of interest in drawing the
- 23 lines.
- 24 And "communities of interest" is a broad
- 25 term. It embraces many different kinds of ties that

- 1 bind communities together. They can be geographical.
- 2 Rivers and mountains can influence communities of
- 3 interest.
- 4 We try to avoid splitting cities and counties
- 5 between different districts. They can include such
- 6 factors as socioeconomic status, rural or urban
- 7 character of an area, the transportation that serves an
- 8 area, media infrastructures, institutions such as
- 9 schools, churches, community organizations, shared
- 10 histories, political issues, business and trade. In
- 11 other words, anything that tends to bind people together
- 12 could be a community of interest.
- 13 The list is quite extensive, and obviously
- 14 that means that it's not possible to draw lines that
- 15 will honor every community of interest, because
- 16 technically every block could be considered a community
- 17 of interest. But we try to respect as many of them as
- 18 we can.
- 19 The purpose of this hearing today is to find
- 20 out from you, the people who live in this area, which
- 21 communities of interest you consider to be most crucial,
- 22 which lines you consider to be most important so that we
- 23 can take that into account in drawing the lines.
- 24 We will, of course, attend to the Voting
- 25 Rights Act and its requirements that we dilute the

- 1 voting power of minority communities, and that
- 2 "minority" can be interpreted broadly again.
- Our main purpose today is to receive this
- 4 testimony. We will attempt to receive, to stay here as
- 5 long as, as long as people are willing to give us
- 6 information.
- 7 And there are other ways you can give us
- 8 information, however. We have in the lobby the
- 9 addresses and other information so that you can contact
- 10 us either by mail, you can contact us by the Internet
- 11 and leave information for us there, and that's in
- 12 addition to, of course, to testifying here today. We'll
- 13 also have additional hearings in other locations in the
- 14 state. And we will have a hearing in Sacramento at the
- 15 end of the process as well.
- 16 The Web site address, by the way, which
- 17 should be on the material being distributed or available
- 18 tables outside is www.assembly.ca.gov/erca, that's the
- 19 committee name, Elections, Reapportionment and
- 20 Constitutional Amendments.
- 21 Which, by the way, the very name of the
- 22 committee gives you a hint as to how misunderstood this
- 23 subject is. We don't do reapportionment, we do
- 24 redistricting. The name of the committee is a misnomer,
- 25 and it's continued throughout history. It's something

- 1 that I hope we will change after this year and give it
- 2 the appropriate name.
- Reapportionment is the process which is gone
- 4 through every ten years by which the number of seats in
- 5 the House of Representatives are reallocated by states.
- 6 We don't do that. We do redistricting. And so our
- 7 committee is actually misnamed.
- 8 So don't feel embarrassed if you come up here
- 9 and you have a mistake, because our committee name is a
- 10 mistake.
- 11 The Assembly Redistricting Task Force Office
- 12 has been set up so that you can submit written comments,
- 13 suggestions and recommendations. That office is at 1020
- 14 M Street, Room 357 in Sacramento. The Zip is 95814.
- 15 And if you testify today, or if you submit a
- 16 request to that office, they will see that you receive
- 17 notice of all committee hearings still to be held.
- 18 We also have at the Web site and available
- 19 here today in hard copy a document entitled
- 20 "Redistricting Plans Submitted by Members of the
- 21 Public." I would recommend that you review this
- 22 document which sets out procedures and suggestions that
- 23 may be of benefit to you as you attempt to comply
- 24 with -- if you would want to submit other proposals,
- 25 recommendations and comments to the Committee.

- 1 If you have an actual redistricting plan that
- 2 you wish to submit for consideration, the Committee Web
- 3 site will connect you to a specialized Web site which
- 4 explains that particular process and through which you
- 5 can submit your plan electronically.
- I mention that this is one of a series of
- 7 hearings we will hold. Additionally, we plan to hold
- 8 two more days of hearings in Sacramento at the end of
- 9 the process. We will attempt to link those by satellite
- 10 with hearings, sites around the state that we held
- 11 hearings at previously such as this one so they'll
- 12 function as a multiple, as additional, multiple hearing
- 13 sites so you can be plugged in to see how much we have
- 14 been able to take advantage of your input by the time we
- 15 get to that stage.
- 16 We thank you for your participation today and
- 17 hope you'll continue to participate as the process moves
- 18 along.
- 19 And that finishes my required material. I
- 20 would also ask, by the way, for those of you who do have
- 21 cell phones if you would either put them on silent or
- 22 turn them off, we would appreciate that. And if your
- 23 pager -- by the way, particularly if you have a cell
- 24 phone which plays some song, rather than just goes
- 25 "beep," you know, I understand there are people who want

- 1 to show us what their musical taste is, but please, you
- 2 know, if your cell phone is a demonstration of your
- 3 musical taste, please make sure it's turned off or on
- 4 vibrate.
- 5 ASSEMBLY MEMBER SHELLEY: Or make sure it's
- 6 the same song.
- 7 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: That's right. We'll
- 8 pick a song. We'll tell you, if your phone can play it,
- 9 then you're all right. If you are -- "Going to
- 10 San Francisco" will be the song for the day. If your
- 11 song plays anything else, then turn it off.
- 12 At this time, let me ask if Vice-Chair
- 13 Ashburn would care to have a few comments?
- 14 ASSEMBLY MEMBER ASHBURN: Well, thank you,
- 15 Mr. Chairman.
- 16 Good morning everyone. This is the third of
- 17 the redistricting hearings. It's very important as part
- 18 of the process of drawing the lines for the districts in
- 19 our great state that we receive the public input and
- 20 participation in this process. And of course, as the
- 21 Chairman has outlined, first of all, these lines need to
- 22 be balanced based on equal population, and then of
- 23 course, we are interested in the districts being compact
- 24 and that they contain within them communities of
- 25 interest and that they respect the boundaries of

- 1 political entities, cities and counties, and that
- 2 natural geography and geographic terrain be acknowledged
- 3 and recognized.
- 4 And so this is your opportunity to
- 5 participate in the process. I look forward to
- 6 participating in this hearing and hearing from all of
- 7 you and I thank you for a very nice day in
- 8 San Francisco.
- 9 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much.
- 10 And also, if Assembly Member Shelley would perhaps care
- 11 to share a comment?
- 12 ASSEMBLY MEMBER SHELLEY: Thank you very
- 13 much, Mr. Chair. I know how tempting and ironic it
- 14 would have been for you to say "And to your left the
- 15 Vice-Chair, and to your right, Mr. Shelley." But I
- 16 appreciate your not doing that.
- 17 Let me just say, for each of us let me state
- 18 the unstated. We have to be very careful in what we
- 19 say, because that's the nature of this business. And
- 20 that's why Mr. Longville, the Chair, read a prepared
- 21 statement and that's why as we listen to your comments
- 22 and statements, we will listen very carefully.
- This is a very open process. We welcome all
- 24 your input. I can assure you your input will be
- 25 incorporated into the approach and the decisions that

- 1 are made, consistent with the Supreme Court guidelines.
- 2 But we here need to be careful, you don't.
- 3 The reason we need to be careful are that historically,
- 4 there have been numerous lawsuits and other initiatives
- 5 directed at redistricting committees, redistricting
- 6 efforts if any comments are misconstrued to demonstrate
- 7 a manipulation of the process.
- And I say this because sometimes historically
- 9 that process has been manipulated. And I know Mr. Chair
- 10 is determined, and I am confident that this process will
- 11 be the most open, the most inclusive and the most
- 12 fair-minded in terms of literally on our part having a
- 13 blank slate, consistent with the Supreme Court
- 14 guidelines and consistent with your input, in terms of
- 15 your collective point of view and the direction in which
- 16 you would like us to proceed.
- 17 And with that, I just want to thank the Chair
- 18 and thank the Vice-Chair for holding the hearing today
- 19 in our fair City of San Francisco.
- Thank you.
- 21 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: It's a pleasure to be
- 22 here, as always.
- I would note two additional things before we
- 24 begin the testimony. One is that we are all wearing
- 25 the -- up at the dias these Lavoleer mics here, which

- 1 means that we have to be very careful because we are
- 2 talking into the microphone, whether we intend to or
- 3 not. So I would ask your indulgence if any of us screw
- 4 up and say something, you know, to one another here that
- 5 causes anybody any particular grief, we will all attempt
- 6 to avoid that. And kind of giving everybody warning
- 7 here.
- 8 And the second thing --
- 9 ASSEMBLY MEMBER SHELLEY: Actually,
- 10 Mr. Chair, what I thought it means is each of these
- 11 wires attached to these mics are 65 feet long. And so
- 12 we are going to be working the crowd with the mics, ala
- 13 Mr. Donohue, and soliciting your opinions. We are happy
- 14 to do that.
- 15 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: All right. And I'll let
- 16 you go with that, Kevin.
- 17 And also, you'll notice the second thing, the
- 18 little seal above us here. I just want to alert you we
- 19 are holding these hearings at loaned locations
- 20 throughout the state, and nothing we say or do today in
- 21 this room, for a change, will raise your electricity
- 22 rates. I am very happy to be able to tell you that. We
- 23 are not the PUC.
- 24 ASSEMBLY MEMBER SHELLEY: Although this is
- 25 where the PUC meets. So I wouldn't go there.

- 1 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Just that. We won't.
- 2 We have an opportunity for any of our
- 3 colleagues at state level or any federal officials who
- 4 have wished to share observations with us, let me first
- 5 double check. I am unaware of the existence in the room
- 6 of any members of Congress. Any federal officials who
- 7 have come?
- 8 All right. And then at -- oh.
- 9 MR. BRADSHAW: I am here on behalf of
- 10 Congresswoman Barbara Lee.
- 11 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Okay. We will -- What's
- 12 your name, sir?
- MR. BRADSHAW: My name is Charles Bradshaw.
- 14 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Okay. We will have you
- 15 up in just a moment. Okay, Mr. Bradshaw?
- MR. BRADSHAW: Yes.
- 17 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Could you by chance just
- 18 for our records, out in the lobby we have a little thing
- 19 to fill out. Have you filled one of these out, by any
- 20 chance?
- MR. BRADSHAW: Yes, I have.
- 22 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Okay. They'll get it up
- 23 in just a moment, we'll recognize you. Any other
- 24 federal representatives? All right. We'll take you in
- 25 just a moment, Mr. Bradshaw.

- In the meantime, I have to have two people
- 2 whose form has made it up to me so far from Assembly
- 3 Member Carole Migden's office. And so I'm going to ask
- 4 if they can come up, I believe Eric Potashner and
- 5 Matthew Rothschild.
- 6 Okay. I believe you have some information to
- 7 share with us. And if somebody on staff can get
- 8 Mr. Bradshaw's form up to me, I would appreciate it, we
- 9 will recognize him next. Thank you very much.
- 10 And even if we can't find the form, we will
- 11 recognize you next. Go ahead.
- 12 MR. POTASHNER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
- 13 My name is Eric Potashner. I, along with
- 14 Matthew Rothschild, am here today on behalf of
- 15 Assemblywoman Migden. The Assemblywoman wanted me to
- 16 briefly stress a few points.
- 17 First, she wants you all to know that San
- 18 Francisco is a world renowned city. It's an economic
- 19 gateway to the Pacific Rim, and it's a popular tourist
- 20 destination for both national and international
- 21 travelers.
- 22 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: If you can speak a
- 23 little bit less rushed.
- MR. BRADSHAW: Okay.
- 25 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: I would note that we

- 1 have a court reporter who is taking down everything
- 2 said, that is said today.
- 3 MR. POTASHNER: Okay.
- 4 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: And also, you might want
- 5 to pull the mic up just slightly so it's close to your
- 6 mouth.
- 7 MR. POTASHNER: Okay. I was just talking
- 8 about the greatness of our city.
- 9 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: That's all right if some
- 10 of that didn't get on tape, because we all know about
- 11 it, we all agree with it. That will be one of the few
- 12 things that everybody in the room agrees with.
- MR. POTASHNER: And on that point, the
- 14 Assemblywoman just wants to make sure our city gets its
- 15 proper representation up in Sacramento and continues to
- 16 have two seats in both the Assembly and the Senate.
- 17 Secondly, the Assemblywoman realizes that
- 18 your duty here today is not an easy one. Redistricting
- 19 is not a sterile, cold or calculated process. It's a
- 20 human process. It's about community and our community.
- 21 And it's how our community is going to be represented in
- 22 the state government.
- Now, community is key to this redistricting
- 24 process. And we must ask ourselves a question. How are
- 25 our communities going to be combined? And how will they

- 1 be represented in the state government?
- Now, "community" is usually seen to refer to
- 3 geographic areas, either the whole city or small
- 4 neighborhoods. Here in San Franciscans we have a
- 5 particular focus on our neighborhoods, whether it's the
- 6 Castro, the Bayview, Bernal Heights, the Marina, the
- 7 Richmond, or the Mission, we San Franciscans expect our
- 8 neighborhood concerns to be addressed at the local,
- 9 state and federal levels.
- 10 However, communities just don't, are just not
- 11 bound by geographical barriers. There are communities
- 12 of interest that can encompass any number of diverse
- 13 factors, as the Chairman alluded to earlier, such as
- 14 rental housing concerns, business districts, education
- 15 and school concerns, language communities, traffic
- 16 corridors and transportation issues, along with sexual
- 17 orientation.
- 18 Redistricting is not about competing
- 19 interests or playing one community interest against
- 20 another. Redistricting is about bringing communities
- 21 together and bringing people together.
- 22 San Francisco has a wonderful legacy of
- 23 sending committed, effective representatives to
- 24 Sacramento and Washington, and today the Assemblywoman
- 25 wants you to hear the concerns and thoughts and ideas of

- 1 where community interests exist here in San Francisco
- 2 and how these communities can be better represented in
- 3 San Francisco so that we can continue upon this legacy.
- 4 The input of the people in this room today is
- 5 very valuable and the Assemblywoman definitely
- 6 appreciates it.
- 7 The Assemblywoman thanks you and welcomes you
- 8 to her district.
- 9 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much.
- 10 And let's see. Okay. Can you, by the way, spell your
- 11 name for the court reporter?
- 12 MR. ROTHSCHILD: Matthew Rothschild,
- 13 R-o-t-h-s-c-h-i-l-d.
- Mr. Chairman and members or the Committee --
- 15 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: And speak into the
- 16 microphone, if you could, sir.
- 17 MR. ROTHSCHILD: Mr. Chairman, Members of the
- 18 Committee, I am Matthew Rothschild, former chair of the
- 19 San Francisco Democratic Party.
- 20 And when the Assembly Member mentioned this
- 21 to me, I haven't been involved in local politics for the
- 22 last few years, but I wanted to -- told her I'd like to
- 23 speak on it more out of memory for Dick Pabich, a very
- 24 dear friend of my mine who passed away a few years ago.
- 25 This is something that meant a great deal to him.

- 1 He was a gay consultant who felt passionately
- 2 about the aspirations of the lesbian and gay community
- 3 in elected office. A group of us went with Dick, maybe
- 4 some of them are here in the room, ten years ago down to
- 5 San Jose when this committee had the same hearing for
- 6 the biannual Census in 1990.
- 7 And we brought our charts then, and we made
- 8 the speeches that we -- and the arguments then with Dick
- 9 as our leader. And to be candid with you, Mr. Chairman,
- 10 the committee did not support us. And the irony is it
- 11 was the courts that ended up supporting the aspirations
- 12 of the gay and lesbian community in giving us the lines
- 13 we now have.
- 14 But we are here out of due respect to ask you
- 15 to finish the job and to do what is right. And I think
- 16 it works. It's an easy solution, what I think would
- 17 work, and also not just myself, but I think other people
- 18 will reflect that also, arguments as well.
- 19 But and also in reflecting the aspirations of
- 20 the gay and lesbian community, the neighborhoods in
- 21 San Francisco, and you mentioned communities of interest
- 22 and also the memory of Dick Pabich, quite frankly,
- 23 somebody who cared so much about this.
- 24 To be specific, as I understand it, if you
- 25 look at the numbers that you mentioned earlier,

- 1 Mr. Chairman, the 13th Assembly District needs to add
- 2 about 20,000 voters. So the question is how are you
- 3 going to get there in a way that shows integrity to the
- 4 factors that you have outlined. And I think it's quite
- 5 simple.
- 6 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Mr. Rothschild, can I
- 7 suggest if you are about to demonstrate on the map,
- 8 would you take the microphone off the stand with you?
- 9 Because otherwise it's highly unlikely we'll pick up
- 10 what you are saying.
- 11 MR. ROTHSCHILD: Great idea. Thank you.
- 12 So it's my understanding you need about
- 13 20,000 votes in the 13th. Who knows if we'll be able to
- 14 call it "13th," but in San Francisco. Everybody else
- 15 can't see it, so I'll try to point out a little bit,
- 16 sorry to those people on my left.
- 17 What can we do? The -- what the gay and
- 18 lesbian community asked for in 1990 is simply what we
- 19 ask for today, which is not simply for the community,
- 20 but for the integrity in the neighborhoods.
- 21 First of all, Bernal Heights. Bernal Heights
- 22 is now split into two districts. Excuse me. Over here.
- 23 And it is part of the 12th, part of the 13th. Bernal
- 24 Heights really is a strong district, not just for
- 25 progressives, but for the lesbian community. That is a

- 1 fact. It should not be divided.
- 2 Second, and it has quite frankly as a
- 3 neighborhood, and the Chair mentioned, the community of
- 4 interest. This neighborhood should not be cut in two.
- 5 Secondly, the Inner Sunset. The Inner Sunset
- 6 is now in the 12th. It should be in the 13th. The
- 7 Inner Sunset as a community clearly has more in common
- 8 with Height-Ashbury than it does with West Portal, if
- 9 you know San Francisco, and I think anyone here would
- 10 agree with that.
- 11 And third, the Diamond Heights area. Diamond
- 12 Heights has more in common with Eureka Valley, Upper
- 13 Market than it does with, again, the 12th and West
- 14 Portal.
- The interesting thing is if you add the
- 16 precincts in the Inner Sunset, Diamond Heights and you
- 17 put Bernal together as it should be, that's 24,000
- 18 votes. It reflects what -- 24,000 people. Thank you,
- 19 Chris. It reflects the needs that should be done to
- 20 perform the requirements of the Census, it puts the
- 21 communities, the neighborhood of Bernal Heights together
- 22 and it adequately gives the lesbian, gay community the
- 23 empowerment it deserves. It's that simple.
- I know there are many people here, so I won't
- 25 belabor the point, many people want to have an

- 1 opportunity to speak. But I believe that the
- 2 Assemblywoman concurs with me on this recommendation.
- 3 And I also want to say the interesting thing is the City
- 4 of San Francisco has already done this. If you look at
- 5 the map. Do we have the map, Eric, of the supervisorial
- 6 districts in San Francisco? That's exactly what the
- 7 supervisorial districts in San Francisco do.
- 8 All of Bernal is in District 9, Diamond
- 9 Heights is in District 8 with Noe Valley and Eureka
- 10 Valley and Upper Market, and the Inner Sunset is in
- 11 District 5 with the Haight.
- 12 So the hearings, the efforts that have been
- 13 made on the local level to make sure that the local
- 14 supervisorial districts are reflective of the
- 15 aspirations of the community, are reflective of the
- 16 neighborhood concerns, have been done for you,
- 17 Mr. Chairman. And by following the lines of the local
- 18 supervisorial districts that exist, you honor the
- 19 integrity of those neighborhoods, you respect the
- 20 integrity and the aspirations of the gay and lesbian
- 21 community that we have asked from this committee in 1990
- 22 and now we are asking for it in all sincerity again. We
- 23 don't want to go to the courts again. It's very simple.
- 24 And if you take the precincts in those
- 25 districts from the Inner Sunset, Bernal and Diamond

- 1 Heights, it's 24,035. Just what the doctor ordered.
- I appreciate the opportunity to speak to you,
- 3 and I thank you for your time.
- 4 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Let me ask you, one of
- 5 the maps that you were showing as I understand it was
- 6 the exact current boundaries. Is that not correct, the
- 7 larger map?
- 8 MR. ROTHSCHILD: The large map is the current
- 9 April 2000 boundaries. This is the 13th on the right
- 10 side.
- 11 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: All right. I just
- 12 wanted to verify that because I wanted to make sure we
- 13 have for the record whatever information, could you
- 14 leave us a copy of the supervisorial boundary map?
- MR. ROTHSCHILD: Absolutely. We are happy to
- 16 leave, the Assemblywoman is happy to leave this if it
- 17 helps any of your other speakers today.
- 18 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: That would be helpful.
- 19 MR. ROTHSCHILD: Also, this is the current
- 20 supervisorial outlines for the 11 supervisor districts
- 21 in San Francisco. We are just asking you to honor those
- 22 lines. If you do that --
- 23 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Well, we obviously won't
- 24 honor all of them because we are not going to split it
- 25 into 11 districts, but we appreciate the thrust of what

- 1 you are saying.
- 2 MR. ROTHSCHILD: Surely. Bernal Heights
- 3 should be together, Diamond Heights should be with Noe
- 4 Valley and the Castro, and the Inner Sunset should be
- 5 with Bayview.
- 6 Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.
- 7 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
- 8 sir.
- 9 MR. ROTHSCHILD: Dick Pabich is spelled
- 10 P-a-b-i-c-h.
- 11 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much.
- 12 And let me see. Do we have any additional
- 13 state or federal representatives that have been missed
- 14 other than I'm going to call Mr. Bradshaw next? But if
- 15 there is anyone else, I just want to make sure I am
- 16 aware of it. Anyone else from federal or state?
- 17 Okay. Mr. Bradshaw will be next. And let me
- 18 just give a heads-up warning, the next person I'm going
- 19 to recognize will be Vice-Mayor Mike, and I'm terribly
- 20 sorry, Guingona?
- 21 MR. GUINGONA: That's it.
- 22 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Okay. Mike Guingona
- 23 from Daly City will be next. So the others can be
- 24 prepared. Afterwards will be Council Member Sal Torres
- 25 from Daly City.

- 1 With that, Mr. Bradshaw, we welcome you.
- 2 MR. BRADSHAW: On behalf of Congresswoman
- 3 Barbara Lee we would like to thank you for the
- 4 opportunity to address the Committee today.
- 5 I appear today as both a member of the staff
- 6 of Barbara Lee for Congress, as well as the current
- 7 chairman of the 14th Assembly District Democratic
- 8 Committee. I have come today to speak to the issue of
- 9 redistricting in the East Bay, and particularly within
- 10 the current 9th Congressional District. That district
- 11 is the only core urban district in the East Bay, and as
- 12 it is such it should be preserved.
- Currently, the 9th Congressional District is
- 14 one of the few almost entirely urban districts in
- 15 Northern California. The current district includes all
- 16 of Berkeley, Emeryville, Albany, Piedmont and almost --
- 17 and almost all of Oakland.
- 18 Currently, it is one of the most
- 19 geographically compact districts in Northern California
- 20 and coheres very strongly in the important -- in the
- 21 very important community of interest component of court
- 22 redistricting requirements.
- 23 As you think about adding residents to the
- 24 current district, which is under by about 41,000 people,
- 25 I would urge you to do everything possible to maintain

- 1 its essential urban character. This is an issue that is
- 2 not only important today, and for this reapportionment
- 3 cycle, but it also sets the stage for the options that
- 4 your future colleagues will have.
- 5 The essence of maintaining a core urban
- 6 district which is now the 9th Congressional -- which is
- 7 now the current 9th Congressional District is that it
- 8 should not be broken apart. Northern Alameda County
- 9 with Berkeley and Oakland as its core as a well-defined
- 10 community of interest supports the healthy diversity of
- 11 an extraordinary urban center. In the East -- in the
- 12 North Alameda County, its universities, its colleges,
- 13 social service system, the port, the industrial sector,
- 14 biotech, high-tech, the transit service and the street
- 15 plans all weave an interlocking network of neighborhoods
- 16 within a larger community.
- 17 The areas of West Contra Costa and Western
- 18 Alameda County face similar issues and are bounded by
- 19 the natural and functional border of the Berkeley and
- 20 Oakland hills.
- 21 Since the district needs to gain population,
- 22 it should be from an area that is a demographic and
- 23 functional match with the rest of the district. Both
- 24 areas are very diverse, include significant numbers of
- 25 immigrants and face the issues of crime, redevelopment

- 1 and revitalizing schools and infrastructure.
- 2 The suburban areas east of the Caldecott
- 3 Tunnel have little or nothing in common with the urban
- 4 areas west of the Oakland-Berkeley hills and thus they
- 5 should not be lumped into a district that so
- 6 substantially overwhelms their interest. Wealthy
- 7 bedroom communities where people work in other cities
- 8 have different issues and different interests than the
- 9 residents who live in urban communities.
- 10 And the urban community should not see itself
- 11 facing a trend line of dilution into the suburbs. The
- 12 last redistricting reversed this process from
- 13 continuing.
- 14 Going west is not an option for this
- 15 district. Creating a legislative district that extends
- 16 across the Bay, connecting Oakland and San Francisco,
- 17 makes no sense at all. Although San Francisco and
- 18 Oakland are urban areas, the Bay serves as a natural
- 19 barrier that prevents any kind of community of interest
- 20 from ever effectively forming.
- 21 Congresswoman Barbara Lee and the other
- 22 members of the East Bay Congressional Delegation are
- 23 participating in an ongoing dialogue to address the
- 24 issues of this redistricting. This process began over
- 25 one year ago and may result in a unified recommendation

- 1 to the committee. But that process has not yet reached
- 2 conclusion. We hope that you will be open to further
- 3 suggestions if a conclusion does emerge.
- 4 In conclusion, let me reiterate that the
- 5 committee and the legislature will maintain the 9th
- 6 Congressional District as a cohesive urban district,
- 7 adding population either in the south, in the balance of
- 8 Oakland and a portion of San Leandro, or in the north,
- 9 by going into Richmond, El Cerrito and Kensington.
- 10 I thank you for this opportunity to address
- 11 you.
- 12 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much.
- 13 And Vice-Chair Ashburn, I believe, has a question.
- 14 ASSEMBLY MEMBER ASHBURN: Yes. Mr. Bradshaw,
- 15 you are talking about the 9th Congressional District?
- MR. BRADSHAW: Correct.
- 17 ASSEMBLY MEMBER ASHBURN: And I believe that
- 18 the Census shows a population of nearly 42,000
- 19 deficiency from the ideal population for a congressional
- 20 district. So where would that be gained?
- 21 MR. BRADSHAW: In the -- in -- by -- in the
- 22 south by attaining all of the remaining portion of
- 23 Oakland and a portion of San Leandro, and in the north,
- 24 El Cerrito, Kensington or Richmond apportionment.
- 25 ASSEMBLY MEMBER ASHBURN: And I think I heard

- 1 you say that there is a task force that the
- 2 Congresswoman has sponsored to design a recommended
- 3 district. Is it your intent to submit a plan to this
- 4 Committee?
- 5 MR. BRADSHAW: That's correct.
- 6 ASSEMBLY MEMBER ASHBURN: Do you have any
- 7 idea when that might occur?
- 8 MR. BRADSHAW: It should be very soon. I am
- 9 certain for the sake of it having merit in your
- 10 discussions, time is very sensitive.
- 11 ASSEMBLY MEMBER ASHBURN: Thank you.
- 12 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you again,
- 13 Mr. Bradshaw. Appreciate it.
- 14 My next -- let's see. We have Vice-Mayor
- 15 Wayne Guingona?
- MR. GUINGONA: Yes.
- 17 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Okay. And after
- 18 Vice-Mayor Guingona, we will have Council Member Sal
- 19 Torres from Daly City, and then the Jefferson Union High
- 20 School District Trustee David Minnets?
- MR. GUINGONA: Mineta.
- 22 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: I'm sorry, Mineta.
- 23 Excuse me. A name which I should know. Thank you for
- 24 correcting me, Mr. Guingona. You have the mic.
- 25 VICE-MAYOR GUINGONA: Thank you very much.

- 1 It's a pleasure for me to be mere to testify
- 2 before this committee today, Mr. Chair, Mr. Vice-Chair.
- 3 I come here today to speak to you about redistricting
- 4 and how, specifically how it relates to Daly City.
- 5 Daly City consists of 103,000 people. It's
- 6 the largest city in San Mateo County. It is divided
- 7 both by the Zip code of 94014 and 4015, and it is also
- 8 divided by way of assembly districts now. There is the
- 9 12th District that represents around 45,000 people in
- 10 Daly City at this time.
- 11 The current population in the 94014 area code
- 12 which is Eastern Daly City, Colma, Brisbane, and
- 13 unincorporated San Mateo County is 45,000 people, of
- 14 which 20,000 are represented by the 12th District. The
- 15 population in the rest of the city is 65 to 70,000
- 16 people. That represents the rest of Daly City and
- 17 Broadmoor, and 85,000 of which are in the 19th District.
- 18 So the situation as it stands today is that
- 19 approximately 15 to 20 percent of our people are
- 20 represented very well in the 12th District by the
- 21 Honorable Kevin Shelley. The rest are represented by
- 22 Mr. Pappan in the 19th District.
- The importance of this issue for Daly City,
- 24 it came up for us on Monday at our -- we have city
- 25 council meetings every second and fourth Monday of every

- 1 month. And it was such an important issue that it got
- 2 onto the agenda by way of a four-fifths vote, it was an
- 3 emergency type thing and we got it on the agenda so that
- 4 we could specifically discuss it and come up with our
- 5 objections, or at least to make our feelings known
- 6 regarding what's going to happen.
- 7 It's our understanding that 50 to 70,000
- 8 people are going to be needed in order to make the 12th
- 9 District, or at least whatever the name is going to be
- 10 for that district, in order to get it up to the amount
- 11 that's required that you spoke of earlier. What we
- 12 understood was that that, in order for that to occur,
- 13 that the line, the district line for the 12th, that
- 14 separates the 12th and 19th would have to come south.
- 15 If that happened, it would also have an effect on how
- 16 the line goes down for the 19th into the south county.
- 17 If that happened, what we see occurring would
- 18 be that 66 percent of the city would be represented by
- 19 San Francisco, predominantly San Francisco seat, and the
- 20 other 30,000 people would be represented in the 19th
- 21 Assembly District, and it would be the northern part of
- 22 a predominantly southern district.
- Now, how would that affect Daly City? Well,
- 24 the only way that we can assure that Daly City's
- 25 interests would be completely represented by, would be

- 1 intact, would be if one person represented the city.
- 2 Now, we realize that that may not be feasible
- 3 at this point, and we are -- with the situation the way
- 4 it is, where 20,000 of our voters are represented by a
- 5 predominantly San Francisco seat, we can live with that
- 6 and we have been fortunate that we have had the kind of
- 7 representation that we have had in the past.
- 8 However, if it does split up the way we think
- 9 it's going to split up, it would have an enormous impact
- 10 on our city.
- 11 Number one, we believe that our
- 12 representation in Sacramento would be somewhat diluted
- 13 in that the largest city in San Mateo County would be
- 14 represented by two assembly persons, and it would
- 15 be, it's a disparity that we don't think would be fair.
- 16 You spoke earlier about the importance of
- 17 communities of interest. I'm here to tell you that in
- 18 the recent Census Daly City was recognized as the only
- 19 city that is an Asian minority city in California. We
- 20 had 103, 105,000 people, of which 53,000 were identified
- 21 as Asian-American.
- Now, unlike other areas such as
- 23 San Francisco, we don't, our ethnic community doesn't
- 24 break down geographically in that of the 100,000 some
- 25 odd people that live in Daly City, we are spread out.

- 1 There are no pockets of ethnic diversity in Daly City.
- 2 The entire city is ethnically diverse.
- So if you were to do this, if you were to
- 4 split the city in that way, the community of interest I
- 5 speak of is the Philippino-American community,
- 6 Asian-American community, of which in the last 20 years
- 7 has enjoyed some level of political empowerment.
- 8 It's my belief that if this plan were to go
- 9 through and that the city was cut up in that way, two
- 10 things would happen. Number one, I think geographically
- 11 there would be a disparity of interest. It would be
- 12 difficult to ask two different assembly members that may
- 13 have two different divergent views on funding to ask for
- 14 things within the districts.
- We think that there is a less restrictive
- 16 alternative, an alternative that takes into account this
- 17 group's importance in not splitting up communities of
- 18 interest, not splitting up cities, not splitting up
- 19 counties. It's our belief, or at least my belief at
- 20 this point that you can accommodate the idea that you
- 21 need 70,000 more voters by taking other cities that are
- 22 in the area, whole cities to effectuate what you need in
- 23 the way of voters.
- So it's very simple for us. I mean, from a
- 25 city perspective, we'd like to stay intact. From an

- 1 ethnic community of interest type of perspective, we
- 2 believe that any move that you make to split up the
- 3 electorate in Daly City in that manner would have a
- 4 deleterious effect on the electorate and would probably
- 5 make our jobs a little bit tougher.
- I am here to answer any questions that you might have.
- 8 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Any questions?
- 9 Thank you very much.
- 10 MR. GUINGONA: You know, I would be remiss if
- 11 I -- I was ordered by my people in the city to read
- 12 specific letters into the record. I only have two.
- 13 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Okay.
- 14 MR. GUINGONA: This first one is from Mr. and
- 15 Mrs. R. T. Keenan, 207 Lakeshire Drive, Daly City, dated
- 16 May 16th. I will slow down.
- 17 "Dear Madame or Sir. On Monday, May 14th,
- 18 2001, we were informed of the possibility of removing
- 19 70,000 residents from the rolls of Daly City and placing
- 20 them in a San Francisco district, thus forcing District
- 21 19 to move further down the peninsula to encompass parts
- 22 as far as Burlingame.
- 23 "I protest the move into Daly City. This
- 24 represents almost half the population of Daly City and
- 25 will not reduce the size of our city, but affect our

- 1 standing and power in Sacramento.
- 2 "The reduction in population will also
- 3 curtail the money coming to Daly City from the
- 4 government and different agencies, thereby increasing
- 5 the burden on the remaining residents to maintain our
- 6 standard of living and services.
- 7 "If anything, San Francisco should give back
- 8 the portion of Daly City they already claimed, now that
- 9 we know what is happening. I hope this will not be put
- 10 through without the people having their input as to the
- 11 consequences of such a move on our city." Signed Sharon
- 12 Keenan, Daly City resident since 1959.
- 13 The second letter is from the San Mateo
- 14 County Central Labor Council dated May 18th, 2001.
- 15 "Dear Members of the Assembly Elections and
- 16 Reapportionment Committee:
- 17 "The San Mateo County Central Labor Council
- 18 represents 110 unions and approximately 75,000 total
- 19 members working and living in San Mateo County. The
- 20 Building and Construction Trades Council represents 26
- 21 unions and 20,000 working men and women. Our members
- 22 represent young and old, recent immigrants,
- 23 African-American, Hispanic, Asian, Caucasian, and a
- 24 multitude of other nationalities.
- 25 "We have become aware of the possibility that

- 1 a significant portion of Northern San Mateo County may
- 2 be included in a San Francisco assembly district in
- 3 order to satisfy population shifts over the last decade.
- 4 While a very small portion of the current 12th Assembly
- 5 District includes San Mateo County, we believe that any
- 6 additional encroachment into San Mateo County will
- 7 divide cities, neighborhoods and communities.
- 8 "Additionally, while the residents of the
- 9 12th Assembly District in San Mateo County have enjoyed
- 10 outstanding representation by Kevin Shelley, term limits
- 11 means that a new person will be elected to this seat.
- 12 "With the possibility of reapportionment as
- 13 mentioned above, San Mateo County residents cannot count
- 14 on the same level of attention as we have enjoyed in the
- 15 past.
- 16 "We want the Assembly Elections
- 17 Reapportionment Committee to know that the San Mateo
- 18 County Building and Construction Trades Council and the
- 19 San Mateo County Central Labor Council have gone on
- 20 record to oppose any reapportionment solution which
- 21 disenfranchises a large portion of Northern San Mateo
- 22 County residents.
- 23 "We urge the Committee to strongly adhere to
- 24 geographic boundaries. Putting a significant portion of
- 25 northern San Mateo County into a San Francisco district

- 1 would make the San Mateo County residents a minority to
- 2 San Francisco residents in that district, and the people
- 3 at the southern end of the county a minority to Santa
- 4 Clara County residents in a redrawn 21st assembly
- 5 district.
- 6 "Please consider keeping San Mateo County
- 7 whole and find another solution that does not carve up
- 8 our county."
- 9 And it's signed William Nack, Business
- 10 Manager of the Trades Council, and Shelley Kessler, the
- 11 Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Trades Council.
- 12 And I thank you for your time.
- 13 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much. Do
- 14 you have copies of the letters you can leave with us?
- MR. GUINGONA: I can leave the originals.
- 16 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Okay. Thank you very
- 17 much. Appreciate that.
- 18 Our next testimony will be from Council
- 19 Member Sal Torres. Before you begin, Mr. Torres, let me
- 20 quickly mention three more things.
- 21 First, that as was noted by the first speaker
- 22 this morning, the lines that currently exist were drawn
- 23 by the courts. So it wasn't our colleagues ten years
- 24 ago who, whether you like them or dislike them, it was
- 25 the courts that drew the lines that you are currently

- 1 living with.
- 2 Secondly, I would ask that people try and
- 3 speak a little slowly to give the court reporter time to
- 4 make sure and keep up.
- 5 And finally, the last thing is can I ask
- 6 everyone who has a cell phone in the room, can you
- 7 please check now your cell phone? Because at least two
- 8 people earlier didn't think I was talking to them, and I
- 9 have heard two different songs so far.
- 10 If you have a cell phone, right now before we
- 11 go on, can you figure out where it is, check if it's
- 12 turned on. If you think "Oh, mine is not on," check it,
- 13 make sure it's not turned on. Okay? Or set it to
- 14 vibrate. That's fine. We don't mind if you wiggle back
- 15 there. That's okay. We would appreciate it.
- 16 So check your cell phones, everybody that's
- 17 got a cell phone, check them. Okay. Thank you very
- 18 much. Appreciate that.
- 19 And with that, Council Member Torres, we
- 20 welcome you.
- 21 And the next person after Mr. Torres will be
- 22 School Trustee David Mineta, followed by School Trustee
- 23 Maggie Gomez.
- 24 Thank you, Mr. Torres.
- 25 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Thank you,

- 1 Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee, elected
- 2 officials, ladies and gentlemen. Thank you for the
- 3 opportunity to speak.
- 4 My name is Sal Torres, I am a City Council
- 5 Member from the City of Daly City, and I appreciate the
- 6 opportunity to speak before you today on this
- 7 redistricting, issue which I know is an important one,
- 8 but nonetheless one that requires public input and real
- 9 serious consideration by the committee about the effects
- 10 that this redistricting will take and have on cities
- 11 such as Daly City.
- 12 Whereas my colleague on the City Council,
- 13 Mike Guingona, has given you facts and figures, all of
- 14 which merit the consideration that it's due, I come here
- 15 to give you the emotional content of what your voting
- 16 will do to my people, to my city, to this county, to the
- 17 Bay Area.
- 18 Of all the things that a human can lose,
- 19 probably two of the most important are the ability to
- 20 see and the ability to speak. What you do here today,
- 21 what you do here from now on will have an effect on the
- 22 ability of the people of San Mateo County, especially
- 23 the people of Daly City, to be able to see that there is
- 24 hope in Sacramento, to be able to have a voice in
- 25 Sacramento that they know they can identify with, that

- 1 they know they can believe in, that they know that their
- 2 hearts can trust in that person because that person will
- 3 have something identifiable from which to take from Daly
- 4 City.
- 5 It's a city of unique individuals. Many of
- 6 you may not know Daly City, with the exception of
- 7 Mr. Shelley, of course, who is well familiar with our
- 8 great city.
- 9 It is a city of unique individuals. Some of
- 10 you may not know that John Madden was a Daly City
- 11 resident, John McCane, Dorothy Delison, who was the
- 12 United States women's amature golf champion and current
- 13 LPGA member, Rosy Navarro, a sixth grader who introduced
- 14 Governor Davis to Cuomo Elementary School, Lonnie Baker,
- 15 who discovered one of the rings around Saturn.
- 16 These are just some of the unique individuals
- 17 we have in Daly City. Not to say that where you decide
- 18 to draw the lines and where you decide to pour in people
- 19 from Daly City into other cities, such as the great City
- 20 of San Francisco, is any less unique.
- 21 In fact, it is because of that reason that
- 22 you should not take Daly City residents and put them
- 23 into San Francisco neighborhoods simply because each of
- 24 those neighborhoods inasmuch as they respect each other,
- 25 inasmuch as they admire each other, they are uniquely

- 1 different, distinctly different. Our neighborhoods are
- 2 different. And I'll give you a flavor for what their
- 3 names are.
- 4 Serramonte District, original Daly City. The
- 5 Crocker neighborhood. The Bayshore neighborhood.
- 6 Skyline. Hillside. And Westlake.
- 7 Daly City is home to the up and coming
- 8 Pacific Plaza just south of Daly City BART. Mission
- 9 Plaza, Serramonte Mall, and soon to be home to -- and I
- 10 know this will please many people -- Krispy Kreme
- 11 Donuts.
- 12 Daly City is nationally recognized for its
- 13 volunteer, all-volunteer effort anti-graffiti committee
- 14 where we take people in the community and they go and
- 15 paint over the grafitti in our city that mars any city.
- 16 We are very proud of the efforts our city has made.
- 17 Last year had I had the distinct opportunity
- 18 and pleasure to serve as the city's mayor. We were
- 19 faced with a very monumental task involving 18 homes
- 20 that were slipping off Westline Drive after the recent
- 21 storms of El Nino. It was a monumental task because
- 22 albeit it was only 18 homeowners, they were still 18 of
- 23 our homeowners. Had it not been for the efforts of
- 24 Mr. Shelley, Ms. Spear, Mr. Pappan and the Honorable Tom
- 25 Lantos, we might not have been able to secure the

- 1 funding that we needed immediately, quickly to help
- 2 these homeowners find other places in which to reside
- 3 and move them out of harm's way.
- 4 That is not to say that if you decide to
- 5 redraw the lines and we are now included in a
- 6 San Francisco neighborhood that a San Francisco
- 7 representative, as Mr. Guingona pointed out, will be the
- 8 more likely person to represent us, would not care.
- 9 But we also realize that it's more viable
- 10 that someone from Daly City, from Northern San Mateo
- 11 County will have the heart and the soul to understand
- 12 the problem immediately because they will have the sight
- 13 and they will have the sound where they started from and
- 14 they will take it to Sacramento.
- 15 Mr. Chairman, you alluded earlier tonight --
- 16 today that one of the tasks you have before you -- and I
- 17 realize it is a difficult task -- is that you must try
- 18 not to split cities and counties. Daly City is already
- 19 split. If you split it any more, you are splintering
- 20 the city to near oblivion.
- 21 If you take any more of the residents that
- 22 you have and put them into any other assembly district,
- 23 you will dilute its voting effectiveness.
- 24 You also said that you will not dilute voting
- 25 power of minorities. Mr. Guingona was correct in saying

- 1 that Daly City is one of the unique cities in California
- 2 because it is an Asian minority dominated city, but let
- 3 me tell you, the Latino community is just as strong and
- 4 just as proud. The Latino community makes up almost 24
- 5 percent of the city's 104,000 population. It's the
- 6 Latino community that, like the Asian community, is not
- 7 pocketed in one neighborhood, as it is in some other
- 8 cities.
- 9 It is a community that is spread out. It is
- 10 a community that is made up not of low socioeconomic
- 11 individuals, but of business persons, of lawyers and
- 12 doctors, of engineers, of homemakers, of gardeners, of
- 13 all walks of life. And because of that, they live in
- 14 different parts of the city. So that if you take any
- 15 residents out of Daly City, you will by definition be
- 16 diluting the voting power of the Latino community, and
- 17 that is something the Latino community cannot afford to
- 18 do any longer.
- 19 It is once, and was always known as, a
- 20 sleeping giant. The sleeping giant has long since
- 21 awakened. They have made inroads into political
- 22 empowerment, into economic empowerment. Please do not
- 23 start to dilute it again by taking that power away from
- 24 that community that has worked so hard and sacrificed so
- 25 much to get to where it is today.

- 1 Daly City is a community that strives to
- 2 preserve its beautiful quaintness, its beautiful and
- 3 passionate feeling for community, much like any other
- 4 city. It is also a community that has always been proud
- 5 to say that they have identified with someone in
- 6 Sacramento because that person came from Daly City or
- 7 from Northern San Mateo County, and not from anywhere
- 8 else.
- 9 It's a city where people that you will hear
- 10 from today, individuals have the ability to see in
- 11 Sacramento, to see a ray of hope that their voice will
- 12 be heard in Sacramento. Their feelings will be
- 13 understood because the people that represent them come
- 14 from the very city from which they are speaking about.
- These are people that have the ability to
- 16 communicate with those in Sacramento, and they will
- 17 be, they will feel they were being understood because
- 18 they can identify with that individual.
- I know you have many other speakers here
- 20 before you, so I will draw my comments to a close with
- 21 simply this. There are many things we can do here
- 22 tonight, and I certainly do not want to offer any
- 23 magical solution because probably there is none. But I
- 24 will offer this by way of suggestion as I was instructed
- 25 to do so by one of your colleagues in the Assembly.

- 1 What is the answer? Where do we go? If you must draw
- 2 the lines further south in the San Mateo County, I urge
- 3 you to not draw them solely in Daly City. Perhaps as a
- 4 way of suggestion, you can draw the lines further south
- 5 using Highway 101 as a guide.
- 6 Granted, you may still be taking people away
- 7 from residents in Brisbane or South San Francisco or
- 8 Millbrae, but if you use 101 as your guide and you go
- 9 down the easterly side of those cities, you will lessen
- 10 the impact, you will lessen the ability for people to
- 11 lose their sight, to lose their sound in Sacramento,
- 12 because you are not taking as much away.
- 13 If you take away 50,000, 20,000, even 10,000
- 14 more Daly City residents, I guarantee you it will be
- 15 deafening. We will no longer have an ability to see.
- There are 100,000 people in Daly City.
- 17 Please do not blind 100,000 pairs of eyes. Please do
- 18 not silence the voices of 100,000 people.
- 19 Thank you, Mr. Chair, Members of the
- 20 Committee.
- 21 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much as
- 22 well, again, for joining us. We appreciate it, Council
- 23 Member Torres.
- 24 I might say that this is our third hearing so
- 25 far. The record for the -- let's see, our redistricting

- 1 is entirely within the State of California. The record
- 2 for the furthest reference I have got is the rings of
- 3 Saturn. That definitely takes the record for the
- 4 furthest away reference I have heard during testimony
- 5 thus far.
- 6 By the way, is there anyone in the room who
- 7 does not have a cell phone and would like one? If you
- 8 would, I would just like to note that if there is
- 9 anybody here who would like to give one to somebody,
- 10 please let them know by ringing their phone, letting it
- 11 sound, just signal to me the people who want a cell
- 12 phone, then anybody who wants can go and get it from
- 13 them. Okay. That's the way you could let people know
- 14 if you want to donate a cell phone.
- 15 (Change in court reporters. Remainder of
- page left blank intentionally)
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- 1 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Our next speaker will be
- 2 trustee David Mineta from Jefferson Union High School,
- 3 who will be followed by trustee Maggie Gomez from
- 4 Jefferson Union High School District, followed by Tim
- 5 Guiney of the Broadmoor Police Protection District.
- 6 Chief Tim Guiney, excuse me. And with that, Mr. Mineta.
- 7 Thank you.
- 8 MR. MINETA: Thank you, Mr. Chair, and
- 9 distinguished Committee Members and Staff. I'd like to
- 10 thank you, thank you all for this opportunity to address
- 11 you concerning this very important matter of
- 12 redistricting. And I think I'm going to be very brief.
- 13 I am --
- 14 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you.
- MR. MINETA: I will be very brief after my
- 16 friends from Daly City. I think they did a fine job in
- 17 stating the position I think we share from the school
- 18 district as well. I'd also like to say that as the
- 19 newest board member on our district board, I am going to
- 20 actually also defer to our senior board member, Maggie
- 21 Gomez, who actually has a letter from our superintendent
- 22 that we'd like to submit for the record. And as such I
- 23 will give some highlights, I'd like to give some
- 24 highlights on our district, first of all, just to let
- 25 you know a little bit about our district.

- Our district has -- we enroll about 5,000
- 2 students. We are a high school district only. We have
- 3 four comprehensive high schools, one continuation
- 4 school, and one adult -- an adult education department.
- We're fortunate that -- to have good relations,
- 6 great relations, actually, with Assembly Member Shelley,
- 7 with Assembly Member Papan. We appreciate all the
- 8 things that both of our Assembly Members have done for
- 9 this district. As such, though, we want to point out a
- 10 few things.
- 11 The first, there is a difference in disparity
- 12 between the suburban educational issues and urban
- 13 educational issues. Daly City comprises the majority of
- 14 our school district. Most of our -- most of the
- 15 residents and most of the students from our schools come
- 16 from Daly City. As such again the disparity of issues
- 17 between the district such as San Francisco Unified and
- 18 our high school district are very great.
- 19 And we'd like to point out that, you know,
- 20 although salary disparities or trying to increase
- 21 funding for education are the same, there are certain
- 22 things that are very different. That being one.
- 23 Second is that we'd also like to talk about the
- 24 diversity within the district. As Vice-Mayor Guingona
- 25 was talking about, the diversity within the city, our

- 1 schools reflect that diversity. As such, again, we also
- 2 feel that splitting the -- you know, taking more of Daly
- 3 City out of -- dividing more of Daly City again would
- 4 just dilute some of those educational issues. And we --
- 5 our concern, I think, is that San Francisco Unified and
- 6 the number of issues, the important issues that they
- 7 have to deal with, we would like to have, if not the
- 8 same representation we have, same proportion of
- 9 representation, something similar.
- 10 And at this point I think again we just want to
- 11 rise in favor of the City's efforts, the City of Daly
- 12 City's efforts, in trying to refocus this, probably
- 13 providing some other alternatives to dividing up Daly
- 14 City even more.
- 15 And on that note I'd like to thank you again
- 16 very much for your attention to this very important
- 17 matter, and look forward to hearing from my senior
- 18 trustee member, who I'm sure will have -- again, will
- 19 read the statement from our superintendent. But again,
- 20 thank you very much.
- 21 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much. We
- 22 appreciate you taking the time to come here today. And
- 23 with that I'm going to welcome up Trustee Gomez. And
- 24 after she is finished the next will be Chief Guiney,
- 25 followed by Council Member Ron Diridon, Jr.

- 1 Please go ahead, Ms. Gomez.
- 2 MS. GOMEZ: Good afternoon. I appreciate this
- 3 opportunity to speak with you today. I'm Maggie Gomez.
- 4 I'm on the Jefferson Union High School Board of
- 5 Trustees. I'm also a Daly City resident. I'm also
- 6 employed with the administrative team at Seton Medical
- 7 Center which lies in Daly City.
- 8 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Don't be too distracted.
- 9 They are just trying to say to take it a little slower.
- 10 MS. GOMEZ: Yeah, he gave me a little key there
- 11 and I'm trying to read, I have bifocals, so it's a
- 12 little hard to read.
- 13 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Yes, yes, absolutely.
- MS. GOMEZ: And Seton Medical Center is also
- 15 the largest employer in Daly City.
- 16 We have a very unique situation wherein our
- 17 school district includes three high schools in Daly
- 18 City. We also have two high schools in Pacifica. We're
- 19 all under the same assembly district which is the 19th
- 20 AD, and the splitting would not benefit our school
- 21 district if one AD lies in San Francisco and the other
- 22 one lies in San Mateo County.
- 23 Daly City is part of San Mateo County and
- 24 should remain such. I echo what Vice-Mayor Mike
- 25 Guingona said earlier about the diversity of our city.

- 1 And I'm going to read to you now a letter that our
- 2 Superintendent Mike Crilly wrote, and on behalf of the
- 3 board.
- 4 "Every local voice is the hallmark of our
- 5 democracy. This proposal will not provide the majority
- 6 of Daly City with a viable voice in Sacramento. The
- 7 city will be split and its voice diminished.
- 8 "The Jefferson Union High School District
- 9 represents the students and families in Daly City.
- 10 Through our system of local representatives who have
- 11 represented well the cities of the peninsula, our
- 12 concerns and issues have always been heard and never
- 13 confused with the political needs of San Francisco. If
- 14 this proposal to redistrict 70 percent of Daly City is
- 15 approved, the needs of San Francisco will undoubtedly
- 16 overshadow the concerns of Daly City. Daly City's voice
- 17 will be split and its worth no longer recognized.
- 18 "As this proposal is discussed, I would urge
- 19 you to look at the real needs of our local community to
- 20 be represented with a unified voice. After careful
- 21 consideration, I am sure that you will conclude, as I
- 22 do, that this proposal serves only the interest of
- 23 San Francisco.
- 24 "The strength of a local community is in its
- 25 voice. A "Daly City" subsumed by San Francisco has no

- 1 voice at all. I would urge that this proposal be
- 2 disapproved."
- 3 Thank you very much, and I have a copy of the
- 4 letter.
- 5 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much.
- 6 Before you leave we have -- let me -- one moment,
- 7 Mr. Shelley. We will have, we will have, we may have
- 8 more than one question coming, but I can ask if you
- 9 can leave -- you said you'd leave a copy of the letter.
- 10 Could you also leave us a copy of the proposal to which
- 11 the superintendent is referring? We have no proposal
- 12 that the committee has issued. Which proposal is that
- 13 that the superintendent is --
- MS. GOMEZ: I don't have that with me, but I
- 15 will certainly get that to you. I can get that faxed to
- 16 you if you leave me a fax number.
- 17 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: If you could we'd
- 18 appreciate it. Because we just want to make it clear
- 19 for everyone that there is no proposal before us that
- 20 the committee has prepared, so I'm not sure to what
- 21 proposal the superintendent is referring.
- MS. GOMEZ: I think he's referring to this
- 23 redistricting issue, and he's referring to that as a
- 24 proposal. And maybe his wording, I mean --
- 25 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: It sounded as if he was

- 1 referring to a specific proposal of a way of drawing the
- 2 lines with which the committee is not familiar, and we'd
- 3 be interested in seeing the proposal to which he is
- 4 referring.
- 5 MS. GOMEZ: Sure. I believe that is what he
- 6 means. He's talking about this issue of redistricting
- 7 and he's looking at that as a proposal. However, I will
- 8 call him this afternoon --
- 9 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Okay.
- 10 MS. GOMEZ: -- and I'll have him get back to
- 11 you.
- 12 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you. And
- 13 Mr. Shelley --
- 14 ASSEMBLYMEMBER SHELLEY: Let me reiterate what
- 15 the Chair stated only in somewhat stronger terms.
- 16 Everyone was doing just fine up until these last
- 17 comments, very respectfully to the superintendent, in
- 18 that there is no proposal such as he references. I'm
- 19 sure you were correct in that he's just referencing the
- 20 general notion. But the inference is that there is some
- 21 predisposed notion of a certain approach towards
- 22 redistricting, which is certainly not the case. And I
- 23 want to state that for the record. And that's all to
- 24 say.
- MS. GOMEZ: Okay. That's been confirmed

- 1 earlier. I'm aware of it. Thank you.
- 2 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much. We
- 3 appreciate it, Ms. Gomez.
- 4 And I have next Chief Guiney. And just so all
- 5 the people can be prepared, I'd like to see, Council
- 6 Member Rod Diridon will be following, and then Council
- 7 Member Jamie Matthews. Thank you.
- 8 MR. GUINEY: Good morning, Mr. Chairman. My
- 9 name is Tim Guiney. It's, for the record, G-U-I-N-E-Y.
- 10 I'm the Police Chief of the Broadmoor Police Protection
- 11 District, the last operational police protection
- 12 district in the State of California. I appear today on
- 13 behalf of the district and also on behalf of the
- 14 Broadmoor Property Owners Association.
- 15 In the interest of time, my friends from Daly
- 16 City and from Jefferson High School District I think
- 17 have done a great job at explaining how important it is
- 18 to us to maintain our identity as our communities of
- 19 interest that we share together. I am just going to
- 20 read a couple paragraphs from the letter from the
- 21 Property Owners Association and submit the letter for
- 22 the record.
- 23 "The Board of Directors of the Broadmoor
- 24 Property Owners Association voted unanimously at their
- 25 meeting of May 15, 2001 to oppose the reapportionment of

- 1 their area.
- 2 "Daly City is the largest city in San Mateo
- 3 County, and unincorporated Broadmoor Village is
- 4 surrounded by Daly City. We believe that we should
- 5 remain separate from the City of San Francisco
- 6 representation. Our unincorporated area is serviced by
- 7 the County of San Mateo, and as such should have
- 8 representation within that county.
- 9 "While we support Kevin Shelley as an assembly
- 10 member, we wish to have our representation be within our
- 11 county. We believe our needs will be lost if included
- 12 into the San Francisco area."
- 13 Again that's a portion of the letter. And I
- 14 just want to state again our communities in the Daly
- 15 City, Broadmoor and Colma area work extremely closely
- 16 together. And we have been working as a community of
- 17 interest, and we would definitely like to maintain that.
- 18 And I was glad today that my friend, Sal Torres, from
- 19 Daly City mentioned our newest addition, Crispy Cream
- 20 Doughnuts, so I didn't have to.
- 21 Thank you very much.
- 22 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: And even though you didn't
- 23 have to you still couldn't resist. I understand. But
- 24 no samples, yet, Mr. Ashburn notes. Thank you very much
- 25 for joining us.

- 1 At this time Council Member Ron -- Rod Diridon.
- 2 As long as I've known his father I should not say Ron,
- 3 it's Rod. Okay. Mr. Diridon is approaching. And then
- 4 after him will be Council Member Jamie Matthews from
- 5 Santa Clara. And then we will begin with -- we have,
- 6 just so you can have heads up, the Lawyers' Committee
- 7 for Civil Rights, Robert Rubin, will be after that.
- 8 Mr. Diridon, you are up.
- 9 MR. DIRIDON: Members of the Committee, thank
- 10 you for allowing us to testify today and thank you for
- 11 spending your one free day of the week out of Sacramento
- 12 talking with us.
- 13 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: We do have court reporters
- 14 who are taking this down, and if you rush through it too
- 15 fast their fingers can't keep up with your tongue.
- 16 MR. DIRIDON: You've got it. So Members of the
- 17 Committee, thank you for allowing us to speak today, and
- 18 thank you for spending your one day out of Sacramento of
- 19 the week here with us today. I appreciate that.
- 20 My name is Rod Diridon, and I'm a member of the
- 21 Santa Clara City Council, and I'm here today to talk a
- 22 little bit about the 22nd Assembly District. It's kind
- 23 of mid south bay as you think about it, not quite the
- 24 peninsula, but also not part of Dutch Hammond's land
- 25 grab during the '50's and '60's that caused San Jose to

- 1 expand so much.
- I'm here to ask the Committee to consider
- 3 reuniting what was a truncated community during the last
- 4 redistricting in 1990, which kind of randomly cut our
- 5 community in half along Highway 880.
- Now there are a number of reasons why that's a
- 7 whole community. I'll limit them to talking about two
- 8 specific things to the City of Santa Clara, as that's
- 9 the community that I represent.
- 10 The first is the north of Bayshore area, and
- 11 that right now has cut about, I'm going to guess about
- 12 4,000 people in the City of Santa Clara, out of a
- 13 cohesive assembly district. These are folks who most
- 14 need the representation of a whole district, most
- 15 socio-economic challenged, and could really use cohesive
- 16 representation in Sacramento.
- 17 And the next is the Rose Garden and Willow Glen
- 18 area of San Jose which had been a cohesive area in the
- 19 22nd Assembly District before it was cut out in the last
- 20 redistricting. And this is the case both for a few
- 21 tangible facts as well as a lot of anecdotal things that
- 22 I'll go into in a minute.
- 23 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Again, Council Member,
- 24 just a little slower.
- MR. DIRIDON: You've got it.

- 1 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: I see smoke from the
- 2 keyboard.
- 3 MR. DIRIDON: Miss, how are your fingers doing?
- 4 It's going to be a long day. Sorry about that.
- 5 Let me talk a little bit about the nature of
- 6 the district. And it is right now Mountain View,
- 7 Sunnyvale, Santa Clara and parts of San Jose. And I'll
- 8 speak specifically to Sunnyvale, Santa Clara and San
- 9 Jose, as that's a pretty cohesive body politic, pretty
- 10 cohesive district, and there is a lot of interaction
- 11 between the two.
- 12 Primarily, fiscally our industrial base is
- 13 similar along those areas. We have a large high tech
- 14 base. And also if you look at the homes and drive
- 15 through the area it's a cohesive district. However,
- 16 also from a community standpoint, it's a cohesive
- 17 fabric. And let me give you some anecdotal information.
- 18 First is Sunnyvale, San Jose and Santa Clara
- 19 are all in the 408 area code, for instance. The 650
- 20 area code is considered to be in the peninsula. 408
- 21 area code is more working class, more blue collar, which
- 22 is part of my district. We're a working class district,
- 23 we're working class people.
- Next, however, the YMCA, for instance, which is
- 25 right over Highway 880 in the Rose Garden area of San

- 1 Jose, is the closest one to the City of Santa Clara.
- 2 It's where my citizens go to use the YMCA.
- For example, also the -- when I spent a year in
- 4 the classroom teaching I taught at Lincoln High School,
- 5 which was the closest high school to my home, which was
- 6 also in the Rose Garden-Willow Glen area of San Jose.
- 7 There are a number of synergies regarding where people
- 8 go to utilize services, restaurants, coffee houses,
- 9 things like that, where we have people coming from the
- 10 Rose Garden and Willow Glen area to come to Santa Clara
- 11 for Theorella's Restaurant or the Mission Roasting
- 12 Company or any one of those. So there are a lot of
- 13 synergies between the two communities.
- 14 What I'm here to ask you to do today is to
- 15 reunite our community which has been truncated in the
- 16 last redistricting and make us one cohesive voting
- 17 block, one cohesive community, so that we can properly
- 18 be represented in Sacramento.
- 19 With that I'll cut my comments short as I know
- 20 you have a long day ahead of you. And I'm sure that you
- 21 know how to get ahold of me if you'd like additional
- 22 information. So thank you very much for your time.
- 23 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
- 24 Council Member. We appreciate it.
- 25 Next I have Jamie Matthews, Council Member from

- 1 Santa Clara, who will be followed by Robert Rubin with
- 2 the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights, followed by
- 3 Rick Calendar with the San Jose Chapter of the NAACP.
- 4 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and
- 5 Committee Members.
- I do very much appreciate the challenge before
- 7 you and the opportunity for us to have a voice and be
- 8 able to represent our constituency. And that's what
- 9 this is really about when everyone speaks. They are
- 10 talking about advocacy, they are talking about making us
- 11 whole, and having a voice in Sacramento, which is so
- 12 important for us here in Silicon Valley. I won't
- 13 belabor the points that were made by my colleague, Rod
- 14 Diridon, Jr., but I would like to mention a few other
- 15 things.
- 16 Santa Clara has a long history. We are
- 17 currently celebrating our sesquicentennial. We are a
- 18 Mission city. Our history is intrinsically linked with
- 19 the areas that we're talking about adding or being
- 20 associated with, which is Sunnyvale and the Willow Glen
- 21 and the Rose Garden area of San Jose.
- 22 The lines are artificial in some ways, because
- 23 of the relationships that we have between them. We are
- 24 closely tied both in our history and closely tied both
- 25 in our demographics. The north of Bay Shore area of

- 1 Santa Clara is the most economic, socio-economically
- 2 challenged area. It is also the most under represented
- 3 at the State because of its association with joining the
- 4 Assembly District.
- 5 By redistricting in this way of what we're
- 6 proposing before you to consider it will allow them to
- 7 have a greater voice for advocacy, which is very
- 8 necessary for our city.
- 9 Thank you so much for the opportunity to come
- 10 before you today. I'm available for any questions if
- 11 you have any, or you can reach me at the numbers that
- 12 I've provided. Thank you.
- ASSEMBLYMEMBER ASHBURN: Mr. Matthews, you
- 14 spoke and the previous speaker, City Councilman, spoke
- 15 about what appeared to be a recommendation. Do you
- 16 intend to submit that as a plan to the Committee?
- MR. MATTHEWS: Yes, we do.
- 18 ASSEMBLYMEMBER ASHBURN: So a map will be drawn
- 19 and submitted to the Committee that reflects the
- 20 testimony that's been given here?
- 21 MR. MATTHEWS: Yes, sir, it will.
- 22 ASSEMBLYMEMBER ASHBURN: Okay. Thank you very
- 23 much.
- 24 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
- 25 Council Member Matthews.

- 1 And contrary to what I just said a few minutes
- 2 ago, we had one person who had -- one additional elected
- 3 official who had come in that I had not had on a piece
- 4 of paper up here. So before we go to Mr. Rubin, I'm
- 5 going to ask if Council Member John Marquez from
- 6 Richmond is present? Okay. And then it will be
- 7 Mr. Rubin and Mr. Calendar.
- 8 MR. MARQUEZ: Thank you, Mr. Chair, Members of
- 9 the Panel. My name is John Marquez, I'm a council
- 10 member from the City of Richmond. I'm also a board
- 11 member of the Latino Caucus of the League of California
- 12 Cities of whom some of you may be familiar.
- 13 I'm here to recommend as one member of the City
- 14 Council that the 14th District be moved north to
- 15 encompass or to include Berkeley, Albany, El Cerrito,
- 16 Richmond, San Pablo, Pinole, and the City of Hercules.
- 17 And I say this because as one member of the City Council
- 18 I happen to be in one assembly district, along with two
- 19 other members of the council. And six others are in the
- 20 14th District. And it's my belief that if we're all in
- 21 the same district we can have a better voice when we
- 22 represent our constituents with our representatives in
- 23 Sacramento.
- 24 The other side of the coin is as I've talked
- 25 with members of the Mexican American Legal and Education

- 1 Defense Fund and the Southwest Education Registration
- 2 Committee, we have found that in order for Latinos to
- 3 eventually have an opportunity to have cohesive
- 4 representation, whether it be in the 14th District or
- 5 the 11th District, we should be placed in one of those
- 6 districts where we can have a stronger voice.
- 7 We all know that the 11th District or at least
- 8 Brentwood and Pittsburg, Antioch and Oakley in the east
- 9 side of Contra Costa County are growing tremendously.
- 10 And so I would also recommend that the 11th District be
- 11 included in those cities.
- 12 By the 14th District being moved up to include
- 13 the cities that I mentioned earlier, I think that would
- 14 give at least the Latino community a stronger voice in
- 15 both sides of the county.
- 16 And with that I will stop. I'm going to be
- 17 very brief as I indicated earlier. And I want to thank
- 18 you for the opportunity. And I'm open to any questions
- 19 you may have at this point. I don't have anything in
- 20 writing for you as a recommendation. I came in and I
- 21 thought it would be to our best interest for me to say
- 22 something.
- 23 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much
- 24 Council Member Marquez. We appreciate it. And unless
- 25 there are questions, thank you for taking the time to

- 1 come. We appreciate it.
- 2 MR. MARQUEZ: Thank you very much.
- 3 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: And then we will now move
- 4 on to Mr. Robert Rubin representing the Lawyers'
- 5 Committee for Civil Rights. And after Mr. Rubin will be
- 6 Mr. Rick Calendar from the San Jose Chapter of the
- 7 NAACP, followed by Mr. David Lee from the Chinese
- 8 American Voters Education Committee.
- 9 Mr. Rubin, the microphone is yours.
- 10 MR. RUBIN: Thank you, Chairman Longville. And
- 11 thank you for having us testify here today. I am Robert
- 12 Rubin, I'm the legal director on the Lawyers' Committee
- 13 for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area.
- Just by way of introduction, the Lawyers'
- 15 Committee for Civil Rights has a long history with
- 16 redistricting. My colleague, the late Frank Parker, was
- 17 single handedly responsible for redistricting the State
- 18 of Mississippi after the 1980, and was responsible for
- 19 the election of the first African American member of
- 20 congress since reconstruction, Benny Thompson, who
- 21 remains a member of congress today.
- 22 More recently, the Lawyer's Committee has been
- 23 counseled to voters and potential voters across the
- 24 State of California in our successful challenge to then
- 25 Governor Wilson's refusal to implement the motor voter

- 1 law. That litigation went to the Supreme Court and we
- 2 prevailed, and as a result millions of voters across the
- 3 United States today are having a ease on their ability
- 4 to register to vote at DMV offices, at Social Services
- 5 agencies, and it really has been a source of great
- 6 empowerment as originally intended by the congress.
- 7 Yet more recently, together with colleagues at
- 8 MALDEF, we represented voters in Monterey County in a
- 9 Section 5 matter that the Committee is probably well
- 10 aware of, that the most recent Section 5 litigation
- 11 involved California. And that case went twice to the
- 12 United States Supreme Court, most recently in 1999. The
- 13 first decision was a unanimous one, the second one was
- 14 eight to one with only Justice Thomas dissenting.
- 15 And what the principle was is very important
- 16 for what this committee is engaged in today. Because it
- 17 said that no matter what the source of a voting change,
- 18 any changes in the voting practices of the four covered
- 19 counties in California must be submitted for
- 20 preclearance to the Department of Justice or the DC
- 21 District Court.
- 22 And the argument of the State of California was
- 23 that certain changes which aren't important for today,
- 24 but certain changes were a result of state law, that
- 25 they weren't the product of local action, and therefore

- 1 they were not subject to Section 5. The Supreme Court
- 2 again twice emphatically rejected that position. And
- 3 the significance of that and the relevance of that for
- 4 today is that although the source of the changes in the
- 5 four counties in California will, of course, be this
- 6 legislature's action, that is the State of California,
- 7 which is not covered by Section 5.
- 8 Nonetheless, changes which of course will be
- 9 made in the four covered counties are going to be
- 10 subject to redistricting, and that means essentially
- 11 that the entire plan of California will have to be
- 12 submitted for preclearance. And, of course, that is to
- 13 preserve the voting rights of minority voters in those
- 14 four counties.
- I only have a couple of other comments. But
- 16 one thing I would like to raise, Chairman Longville, is
- 17 a question of process. And I appreciate that you all
- 18 have been traveling around the state and, as you will
- 19 recall, several weeks ago when I testified at your
- 20 initial hearing in Sacramento we had a short colloquy
- 21 about the importance of openess and fair and adequate
- 22 notice. And I would be remiss on behalf of members of
- 23 the community who we represent to not point out that --
- 24 I'm not suggesting any nefarious purpose here, but there
- 25 was a truncated schedule with regard to the scheduling

- 1 of this hearing.
- 2 For some time we were advised and members of
- 3 the community were advised it would be June 1, and we
- 4 were preparing accordingly. And then with really less
- 5 than about two weeks notice we were notified that the
- 6 hearing would be today, May 18. It really caught us by
- 7 surprise, it caught many members of the community by
- 8 surprise, and I think that that is reflected today, and
- 9 unfortunately a lack of the full participation that I
- 10 know the Chair endorses and would like to see.
- 11 For example, in just working, I mean from my
- 12 office with our consultants and our demographic experts,
- 13 we were not able to have the kind of data available
- 14 today that would allow us to speak more specifically on
- 15 two lines. We're really gearing up for a June 1
- 16 hearing. And so I would hope -- I don't mean to be just
- 17 critical in that regard, I'd like to be constructive.
- 18 And I would like to suggest to the committee
- 19 that if there is agreement, that as a result of the lack
- 20 of complete notice that I think that you had originally
- 21 intended to offer in terms of a June 1 hearing, that
- 22 perhaps you consider another hearing. And that I would
- 23 suggest that that hearing perhaps come later in the
- 24 process when you have at least some draft maps that the
- 25 committee -- excuse me, that the community could respond

- 1 to.
- 2 I know that there are two hearings -- I believe
- 3 that there are only two hearings that are going to be
- 4 conducted post drawing of maps. And perhaps there could
- 5 be another hearing added to at least in some way
- 6 compensate for the fact that people were not able to
- 7 prepare for today's hearing adequately.
- 8 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
- 9 Mr. Rubin. We greatly appreciate your comments. Let me
- 10 just note for the record actually that we're very
- 11 conscious of the unique status of Monterey, Merced,
- 12 Kings and I believe it's.
- MR. RUBIN: Yuba.
- 14 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Yuba County with the
- 15 Voting Rights Act preclearance requirements. And in
- 16 fact the reason the hearing today is in San Francisco on
- 17 this date is because requests from Monterey County where
- 18 the hearing was supposed to be today, that we allow
- 19 additional time for people in that county covered under
- 20 the Voting Rights Act to prepare. And so we switched
- 21 the dates --
- MR. RUBIN: Right.
- 23 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: -- between the hearing in
- 24 Monterey County and the hearing in this location.
- 25 Nonetheless, any additional material which you may be

- 1 working on currently is invited and eagerly anticipated
- 2 by the committee. Despite the fact that you won't
- 3 present it today, we still will review it quite
- 4 completely and thoroughly if you can submit it at any
- 5 time before we start drawing the maps.
- 6 The actual map drawing will not begin until
- 7 after the hearings have been conducted around the state,
- 8 although we will have hearings in Sacramento after that
- 9 time. And as I mentioned at the beginning of the
- 10 session today, we will attempt to hook up ideally, we
- 11 can't guarantee this will work out perfectly, but our
- 12 intention is that we will try and get as much as
- 13 possible every site where these hearings are being
- 14 conducted, hooked up by teleconference, including video
- 15 hookups, and computer ties so that people can
- 16 participate by computer into our last hearings in
- 17 Sacramento.
- 18 Exactly how the details of that work out they
- 19 are still being worked on, but it's our intent to try to
- 20 make it as inclusive as possible, so that those hearings
- 21 will be held after we have something to look at, and
- 22 that will hopefully allow you the exact kind of
- 23 opportunity you're discussing. But again, anything that
- 24 you are working on that you couldn't finish for today --
- 25 MR. RUBIN: Right.

- 1 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: -- please provide it to
- 2 us, we welcome it.
- 3 MR. RUBIN: Well, I appreciate that, Chairman.
- 4 I would still encourage, and I know there is a lot of
- 5 logistical matters to consider, but if there is an
- 6 opportunity to offer more on-site hearings later down in
- 7 the process I think that would --
- 8 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much. And
- 9 I believe that Mr. Ashburn has also a question or
- 10 comment.
- 11 ASSEMBLYMEMBER ASHBURN: Thank you, Mr. Rubin.
- 12 I think you struck on a very important point and
- 13 something with which I'm incomplete agreement, and that
- 14 is the need for additional hearings for the maximum
- 15 public input. As you well recognize, this is a
- 16 committee of the Assembly Elections and Reapportionment
- 17 Committee. The senate will likewise be conducting
- 18 hearings, fewer of them, that they have announced. And
- 19 ultimately the process involves the drawing and the
- 20 decisions on maps between both houses of the
- 21 legislature.
- MR. RUBIN: Of course.
- ASSEMBLYMEMBER ASHBURN: And that's the point
- 24 that I think you were trying to make. Is that the
- 25 Assembly Committee is going to hold more hearings. This

- 1 is the third of eight. But the important point comes at
- 2 the conference between the senate and the assembly, and
- 3 maps that are developed and produced by that conference.
- 4 And what kind of time is allowed, what kind of public
- 5 review, what kind of analysis the public members have of
- 6 that map and its significance. I have encouraged the
- 7 Speaker, I have encouraged the Chair, I have encouraged
- 8 our colleagues in the assembly to encourage our senate
- 9 colleagues that we need to have as open and
- 10 participatory process as possible once we get to
- 11 conference.
- 12 Because I agree with you, that when a
- 13 conference map and set of maps are produced, that's the
- 14 time that we want to give maximum opportunity for
- 15 review, analysis and public comment. Because in essence
- 16 we will be dealing with near final. And I think you've
- 17 struck on a very important point, one with which I
- 18 completely agree.
- 19 MR. RUBIN: Thank you. I had just a couple of
- 20 other things, other than on our process here.
- 21 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Please go right ahead.
- 22 MR. RUBIN: And say another moment or two. I
- 23 did want to respond just quickly to something that
- 24 Assemblyman Shelley said. I know he's not here, but
- 25 frankly it's not directed to him as much in response,

- 1 which was the elephant in the room, that you can't be
- 2 quite as open in what you are saying. And I think that
- 3 what he followed that with saying is that people in the
- 4 audience should feel free to stay whatever they want.
- 5 And I would certainly -- I would disagree somewhat with
- 6 that. I think that folks need to be circumspect in how
- 7 they couch their remarks.
- 8 Everybody is aware that's probably engaged in
- 9 this process what the Supreme Court has said over the
- 10 course of the last decade. And I think that it's very
- 11 important that people couch their remarks in measured
- 12 comments and be sure that they are the kind of comments
- 13 that would stand scrutiny. Because the last thing that
- 14 we want is for whatever maps do come out to be subject
- 15 to legal challenge. And so if people would talk about
- 16 the issues that they would like in the context of
- 17 communities of interest of which race, of course, can be
- 18 a factor, I think that's important.
- 19 And that was really the one substantive comment
- 20 that I do want to make. And I know that this committee
- 21 is well aware of it, to emphasize majority-minority
- 22 districts are not illegal and race may be taken into
- 23 account in your redistricting process. I think that's
- 24 extremely important. And I think that the recent
- 25 decision of just one month ago, actually a month ago

- 1 exactly today, April 18th, the Supreme Court decision of
- 2 Hunt versus Cromartie reaffirms that principle.
- 3 What the Court said there just real quickly,
- 4 I'm sorry, the Court spoke quickly, I will try not to.
- 5 "The constitution does not place an affirmative
- 6 obligation upon the legislature to avoid creating
- 7 districts that turn out to be heavily, even majority,
- 8 minority." And I think that that is a welcome mantra  $\$
- 9 that this committee can take to heart and use. That
- 10 race is not a dirty word, race can be relied upon, as
- 11 long as it does not subordinate other traditional
- 12 redistricting factors.
- 13 And to conclude my remarks, what we might think
- 14 about traditional redistricting factors within which
- 15 race could be a factor is traditional district lines
- 16 including city lines. I know you've had some testimony
- 17 already about preserving the integrity of city lines.
- 18 If you are looking at, for example, the 16th Assembly
- 19 District, which is currently underpopulated by about
- 20 33,000, I think one way that the committee might
- 21 consider looking is north to include more of the city of
- 22 Oakland and preserve the integrity of those city lines,
- 23 at least as much as possible, within the context of
- 24 creating equal populous districts.
- 25 So again, within that context I think that all

- 1 those factors are legitimate, ought to be, should be
- 2 considered by the committee, and we look forward to
- 3 working further with you on that.
- 4 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you again very much.
- 5 We appreciate it, Mr. Rubin. I think what Mr. Shelley
- 6 had intended was that we, that we on the committee are
- 7 going to bend over backwards to make certain that we
- 8 don't say something which is capable of being
- 9 misunderstood to indicate that we already have in mind
- 10 where the lines would be, because that would be --
- 11 that's the whole purpose of holding the hearings, is to
- 12 find out where people want them.
- 13 And I don't think the same problem exists for
- 14 others who are testifying today. In fact we would hope
- 15 that many people would in fact tell us where exactly
- 16 they would like lines to be. And we, however, should
- 17 not be indicating that, because our whole purpose is to
- 18 hear what you want to tell us. Thank you.
- 19 MR. RUBIN: Fair enough. Thank you, Chairman.
- 20 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: And next, Mr. Calendar,
- 21 I believe, Mr. Rick Calendar from the San Jose Chapter
- 22 of NAACP will be followed by the Chinese American
- 23 Education Voters Committee, followed by a group
- 24 presentation from the Coalition of Asian Pacific
- 25 Americans for Fair Redistricting, and I will introduce

- 1 those names at the time we get to that point.
- 2 Mr. Calendar, the microphone is yours.
- 3 MR. CALENDAR: Thank you. Good afternoon.
- 4 It's a true pleasure to be able to address the
- 5 Commission this afternoon, Mr. Chairman and
- 6 Mr. Vice-Chair.
- 7 As you know I am the president of the San Jose
- 8 Silicon Valley branch of the NAACP. NAACP's boundaries
- 9 for San Jose Silicon Valley are congruent with those of
- 10 Santa Clara County. I've personally been a resident of
- 11 Santa Clara County and San Jose for over 24 years. And
- 12 the NAACP, the San Jose Silicon Valley branch has been
- 13 there since 1952. A little slower. Sorry.
- 14 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Let me note, we're
- 15 having our court reporters kind of cover for us. The
- 16 truth is they type blazingly fast, but we elected
- 17 officials are a little slow on listening. So as many
- 18 have suspected we're all a little slow. So if you could
- 19 just indulge us by speaking a little slower.
- 20 MR. CALENDAR: Okay. To back up there. We've
- 21 been in San Jose Silicon Valley since 1952. And as you
- 22 know, the NAACP nationally is the oldest and largest
- 23 civil rights organization in America. And we strive to
- 24 ensure that the civil rights, the voting rights, the
- 25 educational rights and other rights of the citizens,

- 1 especially minority group citizens, are not infringed
- 2 upon. And as you start to consider redrawing the
- 3 boundaries that will impact us in our future elections
- 4 here, there are certain things that I would ask that you
- 5 consider.
- 6 First, I would like to encourage you that you
- 7 look at the multi-racial category, and that you include
- 8 the multi-racial category by splitting this up into the
- 9 smaller ethnic minority groups within the, within the
- 10 racial category. I would like to encourage you and urge
- 11 you to enforce the Voting Rights Act. Do not divide
- 12 Asians, African Americans or Latino communities or
- 13 otherwise dilute the votes of other minority group
- 14 citizens.
- I encourage you, one of the things we're
- 16 concerned about, is that the idea of the one person one
- 17 vote is actually realized for African Americans in all
- 18 the communities that surround us. We'd like to make
- 19 sure that there is respect for our communities and the
- 20 communities of interest that exist in our region, and
- 21 that we do not split them up into multiple districts.
- 22 We'd like to allow for the continued input and
- 23 the further input of Asian, Pacific Islanders, African
- 24 Americans, Latinos in the communities, and make sure
- 25 that these inputs are meaningful and truly considering

- 1 when you redraw the district lines.
- 2 One of the things that I do encourage you as
- 3 Mr. Rubin had asked for is for additional hearings, so
- 4 that we can -- oh, let me -- additional hearings. I
- 5 did hear Assemblyman Ashburn say he supported that as
- 6 something that we would support as well, additional
- 7 hearings and additional opportunity for input.
- 8 As this relates directly to Santa Clara County
- 9 and Silicon Valley, one of the things that we would like
- 10 you to consider, is in District 28, which currently goes
- 11 all the way down to Monterey County and all the way up
- 12 to the Evergreen area of the east side of San Jose, the
- 13 east side -- that Evergreen community is congruent and
- 14 contains a community that believes that they belong to
- 15 the district, to District 23. The way that the lines
- 16 were drawn before splits off a community that is clearly
- 17 a part of District 23.
- 18 We'd like to see the District 22 move south so
- 19 that it -- so it can contain the socio-economically
- 20 challenged communities that are currently split off from
- 21 District 22. Thereby also moving District 23 south,
- 22 which would pick up the Evergreen community which is
- 23 there, and then District 28 would continue to carry the
- 24 southern portion of Santa Clara County which is more
- 25 agricultural, as well as the Monterey County area.

- 1 Thereby bringing back home the residents who believe
- 2 that they are part of District 22, part of District 23.
- 3 And also District 28 would be more representative of the
- 4 population that is currently there.
- 5 Now what we're requesting is not only good for
- 6 the populations in the communities of color, but it's
- 7 also good for the entire community as a whole. So with
- 8 that I will keep my comments short, because I know that
- 9 you do have a long day in front of you, and I will open
- 10 myself to any questions for clarification on my
- 11 comments.
- 12 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much for
- 13 your consideration and keeping your remarks short. We
- 14 appreciate your kindness. And were there any questions?
- 15 No. Thank you again. We appreciate you taking the time
- 16 to come here.
- 17 MR. CALENDAR: Thank you.
- 18 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: I neglected to mention
- 19 after Mr. Rubin spoke I was going to point out that
- 20 there is -- the next hearing that will be held in the
- 21 reasonably close vicinity will be a senate hearing in
- 22 San Jose. That's the closest the next hearing will be
- 23 that's currently scheduled. We have a total of eight
- 24 hearings that are currently scheduled by the assembly.
- 25 This is the third of those.

- The senate has five hearings scheduled, and the
- 2 closest one that they currently have scheduled to hear
- 3 is on July 24th in the afternoon from one until five in
- 4 San Jose, at the State Office Building in San Jose.
- 5 Anyone who wanted to pass that information along. And
- 6 that scheduled, by the way, is outside. There are
- 7 copies of that out there. As well as schedules for the
- 8 remaining assembly hearings as well if anyone is
- 9 interested in passing that information to someone who
- 10 perhaps couldn't be here today.
- 11 At this time I would ask if Mr. David Lee from
- 12 the Chinese American Voters Education Committee would be
- 13 prepared. And alerting again, immediately after Mr. Lee
- 14 we have the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans for
- 15 Fair Redistricting. And there will be a number of names
- 16 there followed by another group from the Mexican
- 17 American Legal Defense and Education Fund, and we have a
- 18 number of people who have signed in who will follow
- 19 that.
- Mr. Lee, you are up.
- 21 MR. LEE: Hello, my name is David Lee, I'm
- 22 executive director of the Chinese American Voters
- 23 Education Committee, an organization that's been in
- 24 existence since 1975. And we are a nonpartisan civic
- 25 education organization working primarily in the Asian

- 1 American community of the Bay Area.
- 2 I'm here today simply to try to elucidate the
- 3 Committee on one of the hardest to reach and least heard
- 4 from communities within the Asian community, the Chinese
- 5 American community, particularly those who are limited
- 6 English speakers.
- 7 In 1999 we commissioned the first ever study of
- 8 Chinese newspaper readers that was conducted by San
- 9 Francisco State University, and in particular the Public
- 10 Research Institute. What you see before you is the
- 11 results of that study which show that the Chinese reader
- 12 population, and this is a group that responded only
- 13 through having read or seen a questionnaire in the
- 14 Chinese language newspapers, is spread out throughout
- 15 the Bay Area. And what we've provided is not only the
- 16 map of the respondent households in the Bay Area, but
- 17 also a map that shows, based on assembly districts,
- 18 where those respondent households are and where they
- 19 lay.
- 20 What's interesting about this population, and I
- 21 think something you will recognize, is that how few of
- 22 them are American born. Only one percent of the sample
- 23 of over 2,000 are native-born Americans. The majority
- 24 or 99 percent are foreign born, of which 63 percent are
- 25 naturalized U.S. citizens. And we felt that it was

- 1 important that you have this information in front of you
- 2 so that you can look at this population, and at their
- 3 unique characteristics, attitudes towards community,
- 4 towards culture, and towards public policy are
- 5 considered in your decision-making. Or at the very
- 6 least entered into the public record.
- 7 And that's pretty much all I have to say.
- 8 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much. We
- 9 appreciate this valuable resource that you have brought
- 10 before us. Thank you for taking the time to join us
- 11 today.
- MR. LEE: You're welcome.
- 13 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: At this time I'm going to
- 14 ask if we can bring up -- I have a list of names, the
- 15 Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans for Fair
- 16 Redistricting. And I note after that as I mentioned
- 17 will be, and I didn't complete this description, a group
- 18 of speakers from the Mexican American Legal Defense and
- 19 Educational Fund, MALDEF, and the Willie Velasquez
- 20 Institute together.
- 21 At this time, let me see, from the Coalition of
- 22 Asian Pacific Americans for Fair Redistricting I believe
- 23 I have representing the Asian Law Caucus, Ivy Lee. And
- 24 I believe -- were you going to sit as a panel down here?
- 25 I believe, and I have Ms. Ivy Lee.

- 1 From the Organization of Chinese Americans Mr.
- 2 Phil Ting; from the Filipino American Caucus of the
- 3 California Democratic Party Ms. Alice Bulos. And from
- 4 the Asian Pacific American Legal Center Mr. Daniel
- 5 Ichinose or Ichinose, excuse my garbling, Ichinose,
- 6 okay. And from the Chinese American Political
- 7 Association and East Bay Asian Voter Education
- 8 Consortium Emily Chang, Ms. Emily Chang. Also from the
- 9 East Bay Asian Voter Education Consortium Mr. Paul Tran.
- 10 I'm reading these off. I'm assuming they are all
- 11 present. We'll find out shortly.
- 12 From the Asian Law Alliance Ms. Jacquelyn
- 13 Maruhashi; from the Organization of Chinese Americans
- 14 Mr. Matthew Mo. I don't know if we're going to have
- 15 enough chairs. We may have to, we may have to pull you
- 16 up, pull some people up to make the their statements and
- 17 perhaps they could sit in the front row if we run out of
- 18 chairs. From, let's see, did I -- yes, I did. From the
- 19 Asian American Public Policy Institute Ms. Kim Singh.
- 20 And from the Asian Pacific American Legal Center
- 21 Ms. Nancy Yu.
- 22 And so if you could, each of you as you
- 23 speak -- is there one person that's heading up your
- 24 group?
- 25 MS. LEE: Yep, I'm right here. Mr. Chairman.

- 1 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Oh, excuse me. I'm sorry.
- 2 Thank you.
- 3 If you could introduce, if you have a
- 4 particular order, if I can just turn over the -- this
- 5 segment to you to introduce your colleagues in turn.
- 6 And make sure that if each of you could make certain
- 7 that you have provided your correct name spellings to
- 8 the court stenographer -- court reporter, excuse me.
- 9 And thank you very much.
- Ma'am, you may go ahead.
- 11 MS. LEE: Thank you. Good afternoon. My name
- 12 is Ivy Lee, and I am an attorney at the Asian Law Caucus
- 13 in San Francisco. The Asian Law Caucus was established
- 14 in 1972 and is the first public interest law office
- 15 focusing on the Asian Pacific American population in the
- 16 U.S.
- Our theme and goal is to be a community-based
- 18 legal organization whose mission is to promote, advance
- 19 and represent the legal and civil rights of the APA
- 20 communities. Since the vast majority of the APIs in
- 21 America are immigrants and refugees, the caucus strives
- 22 to create an informed educated community empowered to
- 23 assert their own rights and to participate actively in
- 24 American society.
- Our seven attorneys and three community

- 1 advocates extend legal assistance to nearly 2,000
- 2 clients annually, a great majority of whom are low
- 3 income, monolegal or elderly, and we practice in six
- 4 main substantive areas: Civil rights, voting rights,
- 5 employment labor, housing and land use, immigrants
- 6 rights and senior rights.
- 7 The caucus has been a member of CAPAFR since
- 8 shortly after its inception in May of 1990. CAPAFR is a
- 9 nonpartisan coalition that represents nearly 150
- 10 concerned organizations and individuals, many of whom
- 11 have been actively involved in the -- since 1990 in the
- 12 reapportionment and redistricting process.
- Our most recent redistricting efforts began in
- 14 '98 in collaboration with our affiliate organization in
- 15 L.A., the Asian Pacific American Legal Center of
- 16 Southern California. We built upon a network of
- 17 community partners that were active in the census 2000
- 18 outreach efforts, and we've coordinated meetings with
- 19 community organizations and community leaders to provide
- 20 information about redistricting and significance of this
- 21 process on the APA community, as well as to obtain
- 22 community input regarding their priorities and their
- 23 interests. We're continuing to facilitate these
- 24 meetings as the redistricting process continues.
- 25 Rather than rehash the rest of my written

- 1 testimony what I'm going to do is introduce the
- 2 community folks that are actually going to tell you
- 3 about what their priorities and what their interests are
- 4 today.
- 5 First of all, I'd like to tell you a little bit
- 6 about what happened at our community meetings in the Bay
- 7 Area. At each community meeting the participants were
- 8 told about what the redistricting process entails, and
- 9 then asked for their input as to what kinds of interests
- 10 and priorities have occurred and have developed in their
- 11 communities, as well as what kinds of communities have
- 12 developed around those interests.
- 13 As possible district line proposals were
- 14 created, we then compared those proposals with
- 15 population size, demographic data, compactness,
- 16 contiguity, additional factors. Mr. Phillip Ting, who
- 17 is the president of the San Francisco Chapter of the
- 18 Organization of Chinese Americans, and Alice Bulos, who
- 19 is the former state chair of the Filipino American
- 20 Democratic Caucus, will be testifying about the
- 21 community' concerns and interests, followed by a
- 22 colleague from the Asian Pacific American Legal Center
- 23 of Southern California, who has also been their research
- 24 coordinator, who will provide more detailed demographic
- 25 and communities of interest information for

- 1 San Francisco, and the area immediately to the south of
- 2 San Francisco.
- Following the rest of the CAPAFR group, Nancy
- 4 Yu, the research analyst from APALC, will then testify
- 5 about the demographic and other communities of interest
- 6 information for Santa Clara.
- 7 Today we're not prepared to present our
- 8 completed district lines, but we will be submitting a
- 9 finalized and unified statement now in the future. I'd
- 10 like to turn the microphone over now to Mr. Phil Ting.
- 11 MR. TING: Thank you. Mr. Chair,
- 12 Mr. Vice-Chair, thank you very much for holding this
- 13 hearing and we appreciate you coming to Northern
- 14 California.
- 15 My name is Phil Ting. I'm president of the
- 16 Organization of Chinese Americans, San Francisco
- 17 Chapter. The Organization of Chinese Americans was
- 18 founded in 1973 and we're incorporated in the District
- 19 of Columbia, which is where our headquarters are. We
- 20 represent over 45 chapters nationwide, six of which are
- 21 in California, five of which are in Northern California.
- 22 We are a nonpartisan civil rights advocacy organization,
- 23 and our concerns primarily with the rights of Asian and
- 24 Chinese Americans across the country.
- 25 As a member of CAPAFR we want to call attention

- 1 to primarily three things. And echoing many of the
- 2 previous comments that were already mentioned by
- 3 Mr. Rubin and Mr. Calendar, that the Voting Rights Act
- 4 continue to be enforced and that you keep our community
- 5 whole.
- In the past Asian Pacific Americans have
- 7 historically not had a great voice in the state
- 8 legislature. In fact up to five years ago we had zero
- 9 representatives, elected representatives in Sacramento.
- 10 Out of 120 state senators and state assemblyman we had
- 11 zero.
- 12 In fact historically in San Francisco while we
- 13 have -- where we currently comprise 40 percent of our,
- 14 of the population of San Francisco, we historically
- 15 never represented, elected any representative from this
- 16 city. And while we understand that race is one of
- 17 various factors that you consider we do ask you to
- 18 consider race.
- 19 And we ask you to consider our community's
- 20 input as well as the inputs of Latino Americans and
- 21 African Americans from across the state. And we
- 22 understand that it's a very difficult process and that
- 23 many of our communities will come into -- will be, it
- 24 will be difficult to keep our communities intact. We
- 25 urge that you learn and respect our boundaries and that

- 1 you will make every effort to do that.
- 2 That two, that you respect our communities of
- 3 interest. And we understand that communities of
- 4 interest can be defined in many different ways. One is
- 5 land use, one is housing, population demographics, as
- 6 Mr. Lee mentioned language access language -- language
- 7 ability is definitely one, political ideology, income.
- 8 And that we understand that, we understand that many of
- 9 these factors are factors that you will use and we urge
- 10 you to use those factors as well. And our coalition is
- 11 making every effort to not only put together a quote
- 12 unquote Asian Pacific American map, but one that
- 13 represents many other, many other communities and many
- 14 other ideologies as well.
- 15 And the last one I would recommend or just
- 16 mention is that although term limits has severely
- 17 limited I think participation of excellent
- 18 representatives, people like our representatives from
- 19 San Francisco, like Assemblyman Shelley, Assemblywoman
- 20 Migden, Senator Burton and Senator Spear, that it has
- 21 been able to increase the diversity within the state
- 22 legislature and within Sacramento. And we urge that
- 23 in -- when redrawing and redistricting the various
- 24 districts, that we continue to use that as a potential
- 25 mantra. And that diversity can obviously be looked at

- 1 in many different ways, but that we continue to increase
- 2 rather than decrease the diversity within the state
- 3 legislature.
- 4 Thank you. And unfortunately I'll have to
- 5 leave immediately after my comments. If there are any
- 6 questions directed toward me if they could be asked now
- 7 I'd appreciate it.
- 8 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Let me just quickly ask if
- 9 there are any questions that anyone had for Mr. Ting?
- 10 Okay. We understand and appreciate your taking the time
- 11 to be here as long as you could. Thank you.
- MR. TING: Thank you very much.
- 13 MS. LEE: The next to speak on behalf of CAPAFR
- 14 is Ms. Alice Bulos, who is a former state chair of the
- 15 Filipino American Democratic Caucus for the past eight
- 16 years.
- 17 MS. BULOS: Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman, and
- 18 Members of the Committee.
- 19 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: These microphones crave
- 20 affection. Get right close to it.
- 21 MS. BULOS: That's okay. I'm Alice Bulos, and
- 22 I'm testifying on behalf of the Coalition of the Asian
- 23 Pacific American for Fair Redistricting of Northern
- 24 California. And I'm also representing the Filipino
- 25 American Democratic Caucus. And I have been a state

- 1 chair for almost eight years.
- Our Filipino American Democratic Caucus has
- 3 existed since 1986. And I'm also representing the
- 4 Commission -- thank you. Is it okay? -- the Commission
- 5 in this type as a woman of San Mateo County. I live
- 6 within the tri-cities of northern -- Northern
- 7 California, it's in our northern county of San Mateo.
- 8 And it's the border, we have the borderline
- 9 San Francisco and Daly City, the Broadmoor area, Colma,
- 10 and where I live, South San Francisco.
- 11 I have lived there for 21 years. Of course I'm
- 12 an immigrant. And I really want to tell you that we
- 13 have such a very unique population in this tri-cities.
- 14 It has been mentioned many, many times that the race is
- 15 not so important in our discussion right now, but I just
- 16 want to urge you, please, consider that as a very
- 17 important factor.
- 18 In these tri-cities we have a diverse
- 19 population, and it is still coming into this area. And
- 20 if we try to change the district so it will really
- 21 disturb the balance of power, and the voting rights as
- 22 was just mentioned by my colleagues who spoke about Daly
- 23 City, we don't want to dilute this population and the
- 24 voice of this population, the voting right. We have
- 25 worked for many, many years how to get the votes of our

- 1 colleagues, our diverse population. We have educated
- 2 them many years, and therefore, please, my request on
- 3 behalf of this these communities that not to disturb the
- 4 balance of these of power.
- 5 I would like to tell you also that we have so
- 6 many community interests, common community interests,
- 7 and the Filipinos especially. We have such a very close
- 8 family ties. And you may be surprised why the
- 9 immigration -- why there are so many Filipinos in Daly
- 10 City. Once they migrate they look for the people of
- 11 their common interest, common culture. So the cultural
- 12 partners in these tri-cities area are really so
- 13 important. So I urge you, I will not be repeating what
- 14 you have heard. But these are really the important
- 15 things that you can remember in relation to our
- 16 presentation.
- I want to also to tell you that there are
- 18 certain issues of common interest, housing, the working
- 19 community. Then we have the shopping patterns, where
- $20\,$  you must remember that when you go to the Serramonte --
- 21 are you aware of that Serramonte Shopping Center? You
- 22 can really see the diverse population, and especially
- 23 the Filipino community.
- 24 And so we have -- we urge you that if you can
- 25 at least, this will remain at status quo so that we

- 1 cannot, really not disturb that kind of population and
- 2 also the needs.
- And we have other common interest, the access
- 4 to services. Filipinos usually go to a center, a health
- 5 center that's really just near the area. And if they
- 6 have to travel far that will really be not a good sign
- 7 for these people to come always together. And remember,
- 8 access to services to help that problem. If they don't
- 9 have this access many of these people will not go to
- 10 these different centers. And it will take time.
- 11 And we have, I just discuss with the different
- 12 school districts, about the incidence of tuberculosis.
- 13 The growing incidence of tuberculosis, the high rate of
- 14 interest among the immigrant, not only Filipinos, but
- 15 these immigrants, but if there is no access and so easy
- 16 access you will find that they are not going to have the
- 17 testing, this tuberculosis testing. What will happen
- 18 the disease will spread throughout the community.
- 19 So this are really the important things that I
- 20 want to let the members of this committee, that when you
- 21 take into consideration the redistricting of this
- 22 particular population, bear in mind that we have
- 23 maintained the closeness of this relationship of this
- 24 population.
- 25 So thank you very much for this opportunity,

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1 and we hope that we have that message on the board the
 2 common good of this population. Thank you.
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- 1 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
- 2 Ms. Bulos. Ms. Ivy? I mean Ms. Lee, excuse me.
- MS. LEE: Our colleague Dan Ichinose from
- 4 APALC will now be providing some testimony about some
- 5 more detailed demographic information for the
- 6 San Francisco area.
- 7 MR. ICHINOSE: Thank you, Chairman and
- 8 Members of the Committee. My name is Daniel Ichinose,
- 9 and I am the Regional Coordinator in the Voting Right --
- 10 I'm sorry, my name is Dan Ichinose, I-c-h-i-n-o-s-e, and
- 11 I am Research Coordinator for Voting Rights and
- 12 Anti-Discrimination Unit of the Asian Legal Center for
- 13 Los Angeles.
- 14 Research analyst Nancy Yu and I have been
- 15 supporting regional groups throughout California in
- 16 their efforts to participate in the redistricting
- 17 process by providing analysis and mapping of pertinent
- 18 demographic data. I'd like to supplement the testimony
- 19 of those who have spoken, by briefly discussing a few of
- 20 the communities of interest being considered by CAPAFR
- 21 San Francisco and their geographic distribution in the
- 22 city and county.
- 23 Obviously the racial and ethnic composition
- 24 of San Francisco has been referred to. Data from the
- 25 2000 Census provides us the most accurate measure we

- 1 have of California's racial diversity. According to
- 2 these data, there are nearly four million Asian and
- 3 Pacific Islander Americans in California.
- 4 Asian Pacific Islander Americans constitute
- 5 nearly 13 percent of the state's total population and
- 6 are the fastest-growing racial group since 1990.
- 7 In the City and County of San Francisco,
- 8 Asian Americans --
- 9 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Excuse me. Could I ask
- 10 if you can just pause for a moment? As we are changing
- 11 tapes, I want to make sure we don't miss anything while
- 12 we are changing tapes. We are trying to have a backup
- 13 system in addition, you know.
- Go ahead and continue. Thank you.
- 15 MR. ICHINOSE: Okay. In the city and county
- 16 Asian and Pacific Islander Americans number over 249,000
- 17 and make up more than 32 percent of that county's total
- 18 population.
- 19 In Table 1 which I believe, I think you
- 20 should have tables and maps in front of you, Census 2000
- 21 data on area's ethnic makeup will be made up shortly,
- 22 how significantly immigration from the Philippines and
- 23 Vietnam have impacted diversity within San Francisco's
- 24 Asian and Pacific Islander American community.
- 25 By 1990 the city and county was 61 percent

- 1 Chinese-American, 30 -- I'm sorry, 21 percent
- 2 Philippino-American, nine percent Japanese-American and
- 3 five percent Vietnamese-American. And Table 1 you see
- 4 the racial background of the city and county from year
- 5 2000.
- 6 Mapping of that data for San Francisco County
- 7 shows several concentrations of Asian and Pacific
- 8 Islander Americans. If you would please refer to
- 9 Appendix A which is a map of Asian and Pacific Islander
- 10 Americans, the Asian and Pacific Islander American
- 11 community in San Francisco.
- 12 Starting in northwest San Francisco, moving
- 13 south, Richmond and Sunset have high concentrations of
- 14 Asian and Pacific Islander Americans. In Southeast
- 15 San Francisco, our communities are located in Excelsior,
- 16 in Visitation Valley. Chinatown and Japantown are
- 17 located towards the northeastern corner of the city and
- 18 county.
- 19 Because parts of Daly City are currently in
- 20 the same Assembly district as Richmond and Sunset, it's
- 21 important to note that the city is over 52 percent --
- 22 that the city is over 52 percent Asian and Pacific
- 23 Islander American.
- 24 The regional group has also referred to
- 25 income as creating communities of interest in the city

- 1 and county. San Francisco is obviously economically
- 2 diverse, home to a population that includes both the
- 3 destitute and the very wealthy. Per capita income is a
- 4 good measure of the community's general welfare because
- 5 it better accounts for the well-being of dependent
- 6 members of a household, whether they be children or the 7 elderly.
- 8 And these data project next year's per capita
- 9 income at a block group level. This is in Appendix B
- 10 which you should have in front of you.
- 11 Data on per capita income show lower income
- 12 areas throughout the eastern part of San Francisco,
- 13 including south of Market, Mission, Bayview Hunters
- 14 Point, Visitation Valley and Excelsior. In contrast,
- 15 higher income areas include Citrus Heights, Richmond,
- 16 Castro and St. Francis Wood.
- 17 Crime is also an issue that the group has
- 18 addressed. While San Francisco saw a three percent
- 19 decrease in crime from 1999 to 2000, crime remains an
- 20 important issue to the residents and of the city and
- 21 county. Crime is of particular concern.
- 22 Indeed, statistics maintained by law
- 23 enforcement agencies such as FBI and the San Francisco
- 24 Police Department, distinguish between violent crime and
- 25 property crime because of the severity of the former,

- 1 which includes rape, murder, robbery and aggravated
- 2 assault.
- In Table 2 you'll see the distribution of
- 4 these violent crimes through San Francisco Police
- 5 Department district stations. And I have also included
- 6 a map of those districts in Appendix C. So Table 2
- 7 presents the data, Appendix C includes the districts.
- 8 It's a little bit awkward, but I apologize for that.
- 9 Table 2 illustrates data collected by
- 10 San Francisco PD for the calendar year 2000 showing the
- 11 total number of crimes, number of violent crimes and the
- 12 percent of total crimes in a given police district that
- 13 were violent in nature.
- 14 Appendix C illustrates the boundaries, again,
- 15 like I said, of San Francisco Police Department
- 16 districts. If you look at both the table and the map,
- 17 you'll see that crime is more likely to be violent in
- 18 four areas: Tenderloin, which is area J on the map;
- 19 Bayview, which is area C, and includes Potrero Hill,
- 20 Bayview and Hunters Point; Mission, which is Area D; and
- 21 Ingleside, Area H, which includes Diamond Heights,
- 22 Portola, Excelsior and Visitation Valley.
- 23 Okay. Business interests were also an issue
- 24 which the group addressed. Business and residential
- 25 interests create divergent and oftentimes competing

- 1 communities of interest. Data on business patterns
- 2 provided by the U.S. Census Bureau allows us to
- 3 determine the location of business interests, and in the
- 4 course of doing so, residential interests as well.
- 5 The data mapped in Appendix D shows the
- 6 number of businesses in 1997 per Zip code, these initial
- 7 high concentrations of businesses in the Laurel Heights
- 8 area, Chinatown and the Financial District, Mission and
- 9 Bayview, Hunters Point. In contrast, this data shows
- 10 fewer businesses in Richmond, Lower Sunset and
- 11 Visitation Valley.
- 12 So these data help illustrate some of the
- 13 communities of interests being considered by CAPAFR
- 14 San Francisco, and we appreciate the opportunity to
- 15 speak with you today and ask that you strongly consider
- 16 this in your decision making.
- 17 Thank you again.
- 18 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you again.
- 19 Appreciate it.
- 20 MS. LEE: Thanks. Next to be to speak will
- 21 be Emily Chang from the Chinese American Political
- 22 Association, and CAPA, and EBAYVEC, which is the East
- 23 Bay Asian for Education Committee.
- 24 MS. CHANG: Good afternoon. My name is Emily
- 25 Chang and I am testifying on behalf of CAPAFR. I will

- 1 also be reading a portion of written testimony submitted
- 2 by Lena Tam who works for the East Bay Municipal
- 3 Utilities District and could not be here today.
- 4 I would like to start by thanking the
- 5 committee for holding these hearings and inviting the
- 6 community to speak.
- 7 I grew up in Contra Costa County and I have
- 8 been a resident of the Bay Area for 15 years. As a
- 9 child, I was one of many unhappy students forced to
- 10 forego Saturday morning cartoons in order to attend
- 11 Chinese school which was held at the Northgate-Ygnacio
- 12 Valley High School in Walnut Creek.
- 13 Last year I worked for Senator Tom Torlikson
- 14 when he was Chair of the Senate Transportation Committee
- 15 and am currently a board member of the Chinese American
- 16 Political Association, a grass roots organization
- 17 dedicated to educating and promoting the involvement of
- 18 Asian Americans in the Bay Area.
- 19 I'm also here on behalf of EBAYVEC, the East
- 20 Bay Voter Education Consortium. EBAYVEC is a nonprofit
- 21 public benefit consortium organized for the purposes of
- 22 educating Asian Americans on the election process, voter
- 23 registration procedures, qualifications for U.S.
- 24 citizenship and community issues within Oakland and the
- 25 East Bay community.

- 1 The consortium is comprised of organizations
- 2 within Alameda and Contra Costa County and currently
- 3 consists of the following community based organizations:
- 4 The Chinese American Political Association, Oakland
- 5 Asian Cultural Center, Chinese American Citizens
- 6 Alliance, Citizens for a Better Community, Family
- 7 Bridges, Organization of Alameda Asians, and the East
- 8 Bay chapter of the Organization of Chinese Americans.
- 9 I would like to re-emphasize some general
- 10 points made earlier. I ask that the committee respect
- 11 communities of interest in this region and that cohesive
- 12 minority communities be kept whole.
- I ask that the committee enforce the Voting
- 14 Rights Act which prohibits any practice or procedure
- 15 that impairs the ability of a racial minority to elect
- 16 candidates of its choice on an equal basis with other
- 17 voters.
- 18 Finally, I would again like to thank the
- 19 committee for holding this hearing and hope the
- 20 redistricting process remains an open one and that the
- 21 testimonies here today be given meaningful
- 22 consideration.
- I will now read from Lena Tam's testimony.
- 24 "EBAYVEC and Alameda League of Women Voters
- 25 has found that Asian Pacific Americans in Oakland and

- 1 Alameda tend to congregate, partly due to the historical
- 2 discriminatory laws that precluded Asian Pacific
- 3 Americans from buying or renting homes.
- 4 "While unenforceable to this day, there are
- 5 covenants in the deeds of homes of the Fernside District
- 6 in Alameda that prevent sale of homes to people of
- 7 color. Even within a small city such as Alameda with a
- 8 population of about 75,000, there is a high
- 9 concentration of Asian Pacific Americans on Bay Farm
- 10 Island.
- 11 "About 60 percent of the population share
- 12 similar attributes: Education levels, socioeconomics,
- 13 housing, recreation, social services, and
- 14 transportation.
- "To maintain the gains and voter turnout we
- 16 have made, it is critical to keep the cohesive Asian
- 17 American community in Oakland and Alameda unified and to
- 18 not divide us into multiple districts. It is important
- 19 to keep Chinatown and Alameda together in the same
- 20 district."
- 21 Thank you.
- 22 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much.
- MS. LEE: The next is going to be Paul Tran
- 24 of the East Bay Asian Voter Education Consortium and
- 25 also from Council Member Danny Wan's office.

- 1 MR. TRAN: Good afternoon. I name is Paul
- 2 Tran, a member of the Coalition of Asian Pacific
- 3 Americans for Fair Redistricting, CAPAFR Northern
- 4 California. I am a resident of Oakland and a member of
- 5 the East Bay Asian Voter Education Consortium. I am
- 6 also a former public schoolteacher.
- 7 Currently, I work for the Oakland City
- 8 Council and in the Chinatown East Lake and Grand Lake
- 9 areas. My work focuses on community and economic
- 10 development where I work with many community groups
- 11 including the East Lake Merchants Association, the East
- 12 Bay Asian Local Development Corporation, and the Oakland
- 13 Chinatown Chamber of Commerce.
- 14 First off, again, I would like to thank the
- 15 committee for holding these hearings and listening to
- 16 public input about redistricting in the Bay Area. I
- 17 also want to state my ardent support for the principles
- 18 of enforcing the Voting Rights Act, keeping our
- 19 communities and communities of interest whole and not
- 20 diluting our voices and our votes.
- 21 I currently work as a community developer in
- 22 Oakland's Chinatown in the East Lake area which are
- 23 highly populated by immigrants from China, Vietnam,
- 24 Laos, Cambodia and Mexico. In addition to my community
- 25 work, I personally know the challenges of being an

- 1 immigrant in this country.
- 2 At the end of the Vietnam War, my family and
- 3 I came to this country, to the United States as refugees
- 4 with literally nothing, and through years of struggle
- 5 and hard work we have made a better life for ourselves.
- 6 We are all U.S. citizens, my parents own their own home,
- 7 and all three of their kids have graduated from college
- 8 and graduate school.
- 9 Today, I urge you to look carefully at
- 10 Alameda and the East Bay and Assembly District 16 and
- 11 recognize the immigrant community and its unique needs
- 12 and hold together this community of interest,
- 13 specifically keeping the cities of Alameda and Oakland
- 14 together, and also keeping the immigrant communities in
- 15 south, east and central Oakland together.
- 16 Recently, Oakland was recognized as the
- 17 second most diverse city in the United States. In
- 18 Oakland, we are very proud of our diversity and
- 19 recognize its contribution to our community, including
- 20 residential and commercial revitalization, the creation
- 21 of small businesses, work in the service industry, and
- 22 of course, the addition of the rich cultures and
- 23 heritages to the tapestry of America.
- 24 The key point of my testimony, I want to
- 25 stress that immigrant community in Oakland is a

- 1 community of interests. Again, the immigrant community
- 2 in Oakland is a community of interests. They have
- 3 issues spanning all levels of government and services.
- 4 In addition to the basic language and
- 5 cultural transition they face, they are also affected by
- 6 underperforming schools, lack of accessible public
- 7 transportation, higher youth crime rates, lack of
- 8 adequate social and health care programs, lack of
- 9 services for senior citizens, lack of after-school youth
- 10 programs, a need for job training programs, inadequate
- 11 police services, and of course, immigration and
- 12 naturalization services.
- I am fortunate to be bilingual in Vietnamese
- 14 and English, fortunate to have gone to UCLA and to work
- 15 in my community. In working with the immigrant
- 16 community, I see and hear their unique story every day.
- 17 As members, but now member of the Election
- 18 Reapportionment and Constitutional Amendments Committee,
- 19 and as the state Assembly representative, you are
- 20 privileged with the responsibility to draw new lines for
- 21 all of us.
- In doing so, I ask that you remember those
- 23 who are new to this country, those who are beginning a
- 24 new and better life in America, and those who find it
- 25 difficult to speak for themselves due to language,

- 1 cultural and economic constraints.
- 2 Thank you.
- 3 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you, again.
- 4 Appreciate it.
- 5 MS. LEE: Mr. Chairman, next will be
- 6 Jacquelyn Maruhashi with the Asian Law Alliance.
- 7 MS. MARUHASHI: Good morning. My name is
- 8 Jacquelyn Maruhashi, I am a staff attorney with the
- 9 Asian Law Alliance in San Jose, California.
- 10 ALA is a nonprofit community law office with
- 11 five attorneys. In the 24 years of our existence, ALA
- 12 has helped tens of thousands of people in obtaining
- 13 decent housing, justice in the immigration process, and
- 14 access to basic human and legal rights.
- 15 Like the Asian Law Caucus, Asian Law Alliance
- 16 has been a member of the Coalition of Asian Pacific
- 17 Americans for fair redistricting, CAPAFR, when it was
- 18 created back in May 1990. I was involved on
- 19 redistricting issues back in 1991, both at the state
- 20 Assembly level and locally in Santa Clara County.
- 21 Before I get into the substance of my
- 22 testimony, I'd like to echo Mr. Rubin's concerns about
- 23 the need for more notice, including more on-site
- 24 hearings after the preliminary maps are available.
- 25 Asian Law Alliance's most recent

- 1 redistricting efforts began in 1998 as a part of a
- 2 statewide network of community based organizations to
- 3 outreach on Census 2000 issues. We built on this
- 4 network by organizing community based organizations in
- 5 the Asian Pacific American community throughout Santa
- 6 Clara County.
- 7 ALA together with Asian Pacific American
- 8 Legal Center provided training on redistricting basics
- 9 to the community based organizations, and we also
- 10 solicited local community input about their interests.
- 11 Among the groups that participated include
- 12 Asian Americans for Community Involvement, the Asian
- 13 American Public Policy Institute and the Organization of
- 14 Chinese Americans, Silicon Valley Chapter.
- 15 We have been working to ensure that the Asian
- 16 Pacific American community voice is heard in this
- 17 redistricting process. Today you will hear from Matthew
- 18 Mo, followed by Kim Singh who are some of the community
- 19 leaders who make up CAPAFR Santa Clara County.
- 20 Thereafter, Nancy Yu will address the demographics of
- 21 Santa Clara County.
- Thank you.
- 23 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: And thank you for
- 24 coming.
- 25 MR. MO: Good afternoon. My name is Matthew

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- 1 Mo, I lived at the Evergreen area for 17 years. Also, I
- 2 spent ten years in the real estate business in
- 3 Evergreen.
- A lot of Evergreen area, that's now in
- 5 Assembly District 28, while the other parts are in
- 6 current Assembly District 23.
- 7 Many years ago, the Evergreen area used to be
- 8 in mostly agricultural with orchards and cattle ranches.
- 9 Over the years, Evergreen has had many new development
- 10 projects. It is my belief that there are almost no
- 11 farmers living in the Evergreen area today and that this
- 12 area is now very urban.
- 13 The people living in parts of the San Jose,
- 14 including the Evergreen area, are similar. They both
- 15 share middle income levels with many employed in the
- 16 high-tech companies, as opposed to the agricultural
- 17 industry of the King City and Salinas.
- 18 In addition, the folks in the Evergreen area
- 19 go west towards other parts of San Jose for their
- 20 shopping, dining and entertainment. For example, many
- 21 go westward to the Evergreen business district for their
- 22 daily needs. These stores include Eastridge Shopping
- 23 Mall, Bank of America, Walgreen, Office Depot, Orchard
- 24 Supply, Safeway, Food for Less, Lion Asian Market,
- 25 Marina Asian Market, and many more retail and ethnic

- 1 business outlets. Accordingly, they do not go east or
- 2 southward to the rural areas.
- Moreover, people in the Evergreen area share
- 4 the same transportation concerns with the people who
- 5 live in downtown San Jose and in area north and west of
- 6 them. They travel on the same thoroughfares to get to
- 7 work and take streets such as Capital Expressway for
- 8 their commute.
- 9 Also, both San Jose City College and the
- 10 Evergreen College are composed of the San Jose-Evergreen
- 11 Community College District, but are different Assembly
- 12 districts. Both colleges list courses in the same
- 13 catalog. Students or residents in either district can
- 14 take courses at either college, depending upon their
- 15 schedules.
- 16 By placing the Evergreen area with its
- 17 counterpart college district in San Jose, the shared
- 18 interest of students and residents at both campuses will
- 19 be unified because these people attend the same college
- 20 district.
- 21 Finally, as an Evergreen resident, may I ask
- 22 that this committee consolidate our community.
- Thank you very much.
- 24 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much.
- 25 And next?

- 1 MS. LEE: Next will be Kim Singh from the
- 2 Asian American public policy institute.
- MR. SINGH: Good afternoon. My name is Kim
- 4 Singh, and I am a member of the CAPAFR in Santa Clara
- 5 County, the Coalition for Asian Pacific Americans For
- 6 Fair Redistricting.
- 7 I currently live in Mountain View,
- 8 California, and have lived there for the past six years.
- 9 I am the director of the Asian American Public Policy
- 10 Institute in Los Altos, California, and also the
- 11 president of Megabyte, a software company located in
- 12 Silicon Valley.
- I am a member of the Asian Americans
- 14 Community Involvement, AACI, Advocacy Committee, and a
- 15 member of the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce.
- 16 I want to thank the committee for holding
- 17 these public hearings and gathering the input of the
- 18 community in this region. And I'd like to underscore
- 19 again what Jacquie mentioned earlier, that once the maps
- 20 are drawn up in Sacramento, you know, when you have them
- 21 televised on the Internet, the video conferencing, it's
- 22 going to be difficult to tie the states together, you
- 23 know, because being the digital divide issues, so on and
- 24 so forth. And that is when we need to also be given the
- 25 opportunity to voice our sentiments.

- 1 And I speak on behalf of the communities who
- 2 are far-flung across the state who don't have Internet
- 3 connections or the video conferencing facilities. So we
- 4 have to work out some mechanism of probably having these
- 5 hearings again. And I know it's a pain to do them, but
- 6 it's necessary.
- 7 As a member of the Silicon Valley community
- 8 and of CAPAFR, I want to join in urging you to enforce
- 9 the Voting Rights Act and not to divide the Asian
- 10 American communities or otherwise dilute our worlds.
- I also want to let you know a bit about the
- 12 area I am most familiar with, the Silicon Valley. I am
- 13 very familiar with the Cupertino area and the adjoining
- 14 areas of the Sunnyvale, Mountain View and the City of
- 15 Santa Clara. These are high-tech areas and constitute
- 16 the heart of the of Silicon Valley.
- 17 Cupertino houses several major corporations
- 18 including Apple Computers, which has its world
- 19 headquarters in Cupertino. As someone who lives and
- 20 work in this area, I am concerned that the Silicon
- 21 Valley cities should be held together and not divided,
- 22 because they have common interests.
- 23 These cities mentioned are very different
- 24 from their primarily residential communities south and
- 25 east of Cupertino such as Saratoga and Campbell. The

- 1 needs of those cities differ markedly from those of
- 2 high-tech communities such as Cupertino and Sunnyvale.
- 3 The issues facing high-tech cities include labor, H1B
- 4 visas, power, et cetera, and it's critical to keep the
- 5 high-tech cities in the same Assembly district as their
- 6 collective issues may be better addressed than, you
- 7 know, if they were clubbed with what is known as a
- 8 "sleeper residential communities," like Santa Clara and
- 9 Campbell, which have very different issues.
- 10 And I really would appreciate these comments
- 11 being taken into the record and into consideration when
- 12 you draw up the district.
- 13 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
- 14 Mr. Singh.
- And let me apologize for making the frequent
- 16 non-Asian mistake of missassuming the gender of the name
- 17 "Kim" earlier when I read off the list of parties. I
- 18 appreciate that it's an error which I'm sure you have
- 19 encountered frequently, but I nonetheless apologize for.
- 20 MR. SINGH: I have a letter from the White
- 21 House addressed to "Ms. Kim Singh" too. So that's fine.
- 22 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: I appreciate that. I
- 23 understand that. I also appreciate the reference to
- 24 Apple. I am a big Macintosh fan, by the way. I often
- 25 thought if Bill Gates had been Henry Ford, we would all

- 1 need chauffeurs.
- But in any event, let me next -- oh, I'm
- 3 sorry, we have still --
- 4 MS. LEE: Yes. Nancy Yu will address Santa
- 5 Clara County's demographics.
- 6 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much.
- 7 MS. YU: Hi, my name is Nancy Yu, spelled
- 8 Y-u, and I am Research Analyst in the Voting Rights and
- 9 Anti-Discrimination unit at the Asian Pacific American
- 10 Legal Center of Southern California.
- 11 As Research Coordinator Daniel Ichinose
- 12 previously stated, we have been providing analysis and
- 13 mapping of demographic data to support the communities
- 14 of interest arguments put forth by regional CAPAFRs
- 15 throughout the state.
- 16 Today I would like to briefly recap the
- 17 testimony of Matthew Mo and Kim Singh and discuss some
- 18 of the shared interests CAPAFR-Santa Clara have
- 19 identified and are concerned about.
- 20 In Santa Clara County, Asian and Pacific
- 21 Islander Americans number over 450,000 and make up close
- 22 to 27 percent of that county's total population.
- 23 Like San Francisco and Alameda Counties,
- 24 APIAs in Santa Clara County are the fastest growing
- 25 racial group in the last decade. The Census data on

- 1 ethnicity from 1990 show that Chinese Americans made up
- 2 roughly a quarter and Philippino Americans, just under a
- 3 quarter of the county's total Asian Pacific Islander
- 4 American population.
- 5 In Appendix A, you can see that significant
- 6 Asian and Pacific Islander American populations are
- 7 located in the Santa Clara region, particularly in
- 8 cities of Cupertino, 45.8 percent; Sunnyvale 33.6
- 9 percent; and Santa Clara 31.8 percent.
- 10 In addition to these communities, the City of
- 11 San Jose with its nearly 28 percent of APIA population
- 12 has substantial concentrations of Asian and Pacific
- 13 Islander Americans residing in the neighborhoods of Alum
- 14 Rock, Berryessa, Evergreen and South San Jose.
- 15 Moreover, CAPAFR Santa Clara has explored and
- 16 considered a number of communities of interest in this
- 17 region, one of which includes occupied housing units.
- 18 Despite the emergence of compact urban developments in
- 19 cities such as Mountain View and areas like Evergreen,
- 20 as Mr. Mo indicated, within the City of San Jose, the
- 21 rate of job growth has exacerbated a severe housing
- 22 shortage and very low rental vacancy rates in this
- 23 region.
- 24 If you look at Appendix B, generally
- 25 speaking, however, there are more owner-occupied housing

- 1 units in the City of San Jose relative to areas further
- 2 south like King City and Salinas with 55 percent and 54
- 3 percent renter occupied housing units, respectively.
- 4 Additionally, the data project extremely high
- 5 rates of homeownership in cities such as Los Altos
- 6 Hills, while the more central cities within the counties
- 7 see higher percentages of renters being from 35 to 60
- 8 percent of occupied housing units.
- 9 Additionally, we are examining income as a
- 10 possible community of interest in the region. The per
- 11 capita income in the City of San Jose is lower than that
- 12 of Santa Clara County in general, but accordingly higher
- 13 than that of cities southwards such as King City and
- 14 Salinas.
- 15 Looking at Appendix C, similarly, and
- 16 supplementing Mr. Mo's earlier assertions, the data on
- 17 median household incomes show, on the whole, a common
- 18 low to middle income bracket in neighborhood
- 19 jurisdictions within the City of San Jose.
- 20 Distinctively different, however, is the western part of
- 21 Santa Clara County with upward median household incomes
- 22 of 100,000, and sometimes even more than 125,000.
- 23 Lastly, the high-tech field demonstrates a
- 24 community of interest around what Mr. Singh identified
- 25 as the heart of the Silicon Valley: Cupertino,

- 1 Sunnyvale, Mountain View and Santa Clara. Reference
- 2 Appendix D.
- 3 Mapping data on business patterns illustrates
- 4 that these cities all contain ten percent or more
- 5 businesses in the computer industry. Comparatively,
- 6 Saratoga, Campbell and Los Gatos have lower percentages
- 7 and thus may face issues different from those of these
- 8 core high-tech cities.
- 9 In closing, you have heard from many members
- 10 of the Bay Area's Asian and Pacific Islander American
- 11 communities, in addition to highlighting where the APIA
- 12 communities are concentrated in the area, they have also
- 13 described some of the interests that they believe are
- 14 important in their communities. We urge you to consider
- 15 how people and communities that have similar experiences
- 16 or perspectives with respect to these interests and
- 17 issues may be better served and represented if they can
- 18 be united in the same legislative district.
- 19 For example, people who have a shared
- 20 experience of a high rate of violent crime may also
- 21 share perspectives about allocation of state resources
- 22 to crime prevention, victim services or other shared
- 23 concerns and needs born of their shared experience.
- 24 Uniting them in a district would give them a greater
- 25 opportunity to unify their voices in support of shared

- 1 goals.
- 2 Likewise, people of a similar income level
- 3 may have shared perspectives on fiscal policies, issues
- 4 of resource allocation, or of social service provision
- 5 in their region because they have related needs and
- 6 concerns based on their similar income level.
- 7 These are just two examples of the types of
- 8 interests around which communities can form in a region.
- 9 Again, you have heard from many members of the Bay
- 10 Area's Asian and Pacific Islander American communities.
- 11 We hope that you will seriously consider their input,
- 12 the input of everyone testifying today and the input we
- 13 hope to continue to provide throughout the redistricting
- 14 process.
- Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
- 16 MS. LEE: Chairman Longville, thank you very
- 17 much for staying and listening to our community
- 18 participants' testimony. I wanted to re-emphasize the
- 19 fact that our community throughout Northern California
- 20 is very interested in participating in the redistricting
- 21 process.
- 22 And as you can see, the folks that have
- 23 come here today, they run the gamut from being
- 24 entrepreneurial individuals to committee -- sorry,
- 25 community leaders, to just folks that want to express

- 1 their interest and their priorities for their own
- 2 communities.
- Many more community members actually wanted
- 4 to participate today, but because of the last-minute
- 5 change, which we explained earlier, were unable to do so
- 6 because of prior commitments. We want to request and
- 7 urge that you -- that Mr. Rubin's suggestion earlier be
- 8 followed and that more public hearings be provided as
- 9 the redistricting process continues.
- Thanks again.
- 11 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much for
- 12 taking the time, all of you, to be here today. It's
- 13 greatly appreciated. And we will find great value in
- 14 having the information that you have provided us. Thank
- 15 you, all of you.
- 16 Before the next group comes up, let me note
- 17 scheduling for the benefit of those who may be a little
- 18 interested in time, we will have another group coming up
- 19 next, and then we are not having any kind of lunch break
- 20 or anything like that during the hearing, we will take
- 21 a, what I'm going to call a "ten-minute break," I'm told
- 22 that we are going to have a 15-minute break. I'm going
- 23 to call it ten minutes because then it will become 15
- 24 minutes. If I call it 15, it will become longer. So
- 25 I'm just going to warn you in advance after that to do

- 1 that.
- I want to alert, I know there are many people
- 3 who have signed up still to be heard. I want to alert
- 4 anyone, if you are unable to stay for any reason and if
- 5 you have to leave before you get a chance to come up, we
- 6 very much invite you to still give us comments in
- 7 writing or at our Web site by contacting us there, we
- 8 very much are interested.
- 9 I know some people may not have been aware of
- 10 how many people would be in line. We are trying to
- 11 observe people who contacted us first, got up here first
- 12 in the sign-in order are the ones who came in today. If
- 13 you want to make it, we are still interested.
- 14 If you can't stay, we'd still like to hear or
- 15 read what you have to say and all of it will be shared
- 16 with those members who couldn't stay today and those who
- 17 couldn't be here.
- 18 And so at this time, representing the MALDEF
- 19 and the legal offices, I believe, we have a group coming
- 20 forward? Excuse me.
- 21 We have Mr. Amadis Velez from MALDEF, and
- 22 Mary Rosas, if -- she may have already left.
- MR. VELEZ: She unfortunately had to leave.
- 24 She may come back later.
- 25 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Again, if there is

- 1 anything she would like to add later, she is welcome.
- 2 MR. VELEZ: Thank you. A-m-a-d-i-s, last
- 3 name Velez, V-e-l-e-z.
- 4 Thank you, Chairman Longville, and Committee
- 5 Members. My name is Amadis Velez, and I am California
- 6 Redistricting Coordinator for MALDEF, the Mexican
- 7 American Legal Defense and Educational Fund.
- 8 I am originally an attorney by trade, but my
- 9 outreach work on redistricting has transformed me into
- 10 an educator and an organizer. Today I would like to
- 11 briefly testify about the outreach work performed by
- 12 MALDEF and the Willie Velazquez Institute.
- Jointly, our organizations have held
- 14 redistricting workshops in over 30 communities
- 15 throughout California. At these workshops, we encourage
- 16 participants to organize into local redistricting
- 17 coalitions so they can effectively participate in the
- 18 redistricting process at both the statewide level and
- 19 also at the city council and supervisorial level.
- 20 Our workshops include both a legal overview
- 21 on the state of the redistricting laws, and also an
- 22 interactive component whereby community members use real
- 23 maps, real data and real software to develop the
- 24 district lines that they think best represent their
- 25 communities.

- 1 Based on our work with community members at
- 2 workshops, MALDEF and the Willie Velazquez Institute
- 3 have documented the concerns of the Latino community.
- 4 They have shown us, with markers in hand, where their
- 5 communities are, and more importantly, what defines them
- 6 as a community.
- 7 Some definitions are universal, such as
- 8 issues pertaining to access to health care, adequate
- 9 educational facilities, availability of affordable
- 10 housing and equal access to government services. MALDEF
- 11 has gathered and mapped data based on these
- 12 socioeconomic criteria.
- 13 However, there are also histories and
- 14 experiences that are unique to each community. And
- 15 these have also become part of our redistricting
- 16 efforts. These include specific local concerns having
- 17 to do with agriculture, water, energy, transportation,
- 18 migration, business and any other issue that serves to
- 19 bring a community together under a common cause.
- 20 People tell us how the Latino community may
- 21 not have been -- may have been denied the full and fair
- 22 representation in many city council races and county
- 23 board of supervisor races. They tell us about the
- 24 variety of voting systems and electoral requirements,
- 25 including the shaping of the districts that have

- 1 prevented them historically from being able to elect a
- 2 person who will best fight for the needs of their
- 3 community.
- As we organize communities throughout the
- 5 state, MALDEF and the Louie Velazquez Institute
- 6 encourage participants to voice their concerns by
- 7 testifying in both Assembly and Senate hearings.
- 8 I know there are many people who may not have
- 9 been able to testify today, but who intend to testify at
- 10 hearings in other locations such as people from San Jose
- 11 testifying at hearings in Monterey or simply waiting
- 12 until site hearings are held inside San Jose.
- 13 Additionally, people will testify at meetings such as at
- 14 hearings such as the Fresno hearings and the Senate
- 15 hearings in Fresno next week. We will submit testimony,
- 16 written testimony that's given to the Senate, to the
- 17 Assembly as well.
- 18 To further support the testimony of our
- 19 community, MALDEF and Louie Velazquez Institute also
- 20 intends to submit a redistricting plan to both the
- 21 Assembly and the Senate that reflects the needs and
- 22 concerns of the communities we have visited throughout
- 23 the state.
- We are pleased that the Assembly is holding
- 25 public hearings to allow people to testify about how

- 1 lines will be drawn in their communities, and we hope
- 2 that the dates and locations of the hearings remain
- 3 unchanged so that the community has sufficient notice to
- 4 participate. The change of today's hearing date,
- 5 unfortunately, caused many people not to be able to be
- 6 here today.
- We also hope that the California public is
- 8 given sufficient time to comment on any Assembly
- 9 proposals. I remind the committee that it takes you an
- 10 entire summer to put a plan together, and it may take
- 11 longer than a day or two for the general public to
- 12 prepare to submit informed comment on proposed district
- 13 lines.
- 14 I also wanted to testify as a resident of
- 15 Oakland and the East Bay. The Fruitvale region in
- 16 Oakland is an area that is a community of interest. We
- 17 have held several workshops at the Spanish Unity Council
- 18 on Fruitvale Avenue talking about that region. And
- 19 people that have attended these workshops have
- 20 overwhelmingly supported the idea that that region
- 21 should not be divided. Currently, it is entirely in the
- 22 16th District, and it should remain inside one district.
- 23 Along International Boulevard, Fruitvale
- 24 Avenue, there is a community which echos the sentiments
- 25 of the Asian American population that is diverse, that

- 1 is highly immigrant, that faces similar concerns with
- 2 government services, language barriers, and access to
- 3 housing. So I would please ask that the committee keep
- 4 this area whole.
- 5 I would like to read the letter of a resident
- 6 of Oakland who came here earlier, but could not wait for
- 7 three hours it would take to testify at this point. So
- 8 he asked that I read his letter on his behalf.
- 9 His name is Orson Aguilar, first name Orson,
- 10 O-r-s-o-n, last name A-g-u-i-l-a-r. He is a resident of
- 11 Oakland in the Fruitvale neighborhood.
- 12 "Good morning. My name is Orson Aguilar, and
- 13 I am a homeowner and resident of Oakland Fruitvale area.
- 14 I am also the Sr. Program Manager of the Greenlining
- 15 Institute, a multi-ethnic policy and advocacy institute
- 16 that works on statewide issues of community economic and
- 17 development.
- 18 "The Fruitvale area is one that can appear to
- 19 be diverse, but in reality has many commonalities.
- 20 Although being a diverse area of Latinos,
- 21 African-Americans and Asians, these groups share a
- 22 common bond and common traits.
- "The diverse families represent Oakland's
- 24 working poor and working class residents. Oftentimes
- 25 these residents come together to support communities,

- 1 community initiatives, and have the potential of forming
- 2 powerful multi-ethnic coalitions that can advocate for
- 3 important issues and policies.
- 4 "As time goes by, these residents are
- 5 becoming more accustomed to each other and see each
- 6 other as not only neighbors, but also as friends and
- 7 allies.
- 8 "It is imperative that we do not disrupt this
- 9 dynamic that is propelling these residents to work
- 10 together and become more active in their communities'
- 11 affairs. We should not divide this community that has
- 12 worked so hard at working on common goals and visions.
- 13 Instead, let's ensure that these residents remain intact
- 14 and together, so that they can continue to work together
- 15 to make their communities healthier, stronger and safer.
- 16 "Please consider Oakland's unique dynamics,
- 17 especially when it comes to political power for the
- 18 working poor when you redraw your redistrict lines.
- 19 "Thank you."
- 20 Other people that have attended our workshops
- 21 and would like to testify unfortunately could not stay
- 22 here. If they arrive after meetings that they had
- 23 throughout the day, then they will be participating in
- 24 the public testimony and comment.
- 25 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Please tell them to go

- 1 ahead and make sure that they call our attention if they
- 2 come back. We appreciate it. And thank you for taking
- 3 the time to be here today. We appreciate it.
- 4 And at this time we'll take a 15-minute
- 5 break, and then we will resume. We'll take a ten-minute
- 6 break that will last 15 minutes. All right? All right?
- 7 So we are going to start here, we are going to start
- 8 when the big hand gets up to the top. All right?
- 9 Thanks, everybody.
- 10 We are now in recess.
- 11 (Whereupon, a recess was taken)
- 12 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Calling this hearing
- 13 back to order. And those who are conducting
- 14 conversations, if you could take them out to the lobby,
- 15 we would appreciate it.
- 16 And our next witness will be Mr. Danny Wan,
- 17 Oakland City Council District 2. Mr. Wan? Is Danny Wan
- 18 in the room? Okay. If Mr. Wan comes back in a moment
- 19 we'll take him up.
- Next I will take up Ms. Leah Berlanga from
- 21 the Daly City Council of Homeowners and Residents
- 22 Association.
- MS. BERLANGA: Thank you so much.
- Mr. Chair, Members of the Committee, my name
- 25 is Leah Berlanga, B-e-r-l-a-n-g-a. I represent the Daly

- 1 City Council of Homeowners and Residents Association,
- 2 which consists of 16 homeowner and residents
- 3 associations. They are: Bayshore Residents
- 4 Association, Crocker Neighborhood Association, Crown
- 5 Colony Homeowners Association, Cypress Point Homeowners
- 6 Association, Franciscan Mobile Homeowners Association,
- 7 Hillside Homeowners Improvement Association, Original
- 8 Daly City Protective Organization, Point Pacific
- 9 Homeowners Association, Saddleback Homeowners
- 10 Association, Serramonte Homeowners Association,
- 11 Serramonte Highlands Homeowner Association, Southern
- 12 Hills Homeowner Association, Village In The Park
- 13 Homeowners Association, Village Serramonte Homeowners
- 14 Association, Westlake Subdivisions Improvement
- 15 Association, and recently-added Broadmoor Homeowners
- 16 Association.
- 17 Our communities are diverse, both in age and
- 18 ethnicity. Confusion already exists among the portion
- 19 of Daly City that has been split. Voters are confused
- 20 as to who their representatives are. This has been most
- 21 problematic among our minority and senior voters. If
- 22 Daly City is further split, you will cause Daly City
- 23 neighborhoods to be divided and powerless and cause
- 24 further confusion among Daly City voters.
- 25 I request on behalf of Daly City Council of

- 1 Homeowners and Residents Associations that you exclude
- 2 Daly City from further splitting. We have had our fair
- 3 share. To make it plain and simple, any further
- 4 splitting will compromise our basic right of fair and
- 5 adequate representation.
- 6 Thank you, Mr. Chair.
- 7 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much for
- 8 taking time to come here today. We appreciate it.
- 9 And our next witness will be Ms. Carole
- 10 Cullum. Carole Cullum with the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian,
- 11 Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Democratic Club. Is
- 12 Ms. Cullum still here? And if Ms. Cullum comes back, we
- 13 will give her an opportunity to speak afterwards.
- Mr. Albert Taglia with the City of Daly City.
- 15 And for those who may be waiting, some names
- 16 that are coming up, Roger Sanders, Jerry Threet, Dana
- 17 van Border, I believe, and Christopher L. Bowman. Those
- 18 are names coming am up.
- 19 With that, Mr. Taglia, you have the
- 20 microphone.
- 21 MR. TAGLIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
- 22 First I want to say, Mr. Chairman, I think
- 23 you are doing an outstanding job of handling this
- 24 meeting.
- 25 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you.

- 1 MR. TAGLIA: I really appreciate your
- 2 patience. And I'm certain that you have heard
- 3 duplication of statements throughout the day, but you
- 4 were steadfast in doing what democracy calls for in
- 5 representative government. I have spent 30 years as an
- 6 elected official and I really appreciate what you are
- 7 doing.
- 8 I am a citizen resident of Daly City and past
- 9 mayor and council member and also on the school board,
- 10 that Jefferson School Board made a presentation, I
- 11 served ten years there.
- 12 I'm not going to tell you to do anything but
- 13 to keep one thing in mind, Mr. Chairman, and members of
- 14 the committee. When you develop the playing field, make
- 15 it level. People who run for office have to have an
- 16 opportunity to have a chance to make that office.
- 17 Years ago, our area was divided in its
- 18 Assembly district. About half was in San Francisco and
- 19 half is in San Mateo County. If the field is made level
- 20 so that a candidate from our San Mateo County can run
- 21 and have an equal chance as the candidate from
- 22 San Francisco, then you have a level playing field and
- 23 we have an opportunity at good, representative
- 24 government. We have a chance at it.
- 25 That's what I would ask of you, Mr. Chairman.

- 1 I'm not going to say -- because all the things have been
- 2 said, ethnic background, the statistics, the crime
- 3 waves, the lack of crime waves, all of the homeowners
- 4 and they have all spoke eloquently to the issue. But
- 5 unless the committee recommends a level playing field,
- 6 it won't work that well.
- 7 A few years ago when Congressman Burton was
- 8 in office, a lot of people don't remember, but the City
- $\boldsymbol{9}$  of Daly City was in the same congressional district as
- 10 the City of Vallejo and a piece of Marin and a piece of
- 11 San Francisco. Presently our senatorial ticket from the
- 12 state is divided through Senator Jackie Speier. So in
- 13 Daly City, we are used to division.
- 14 But it doesn't make for good level playing
- 15 field if you are running for that office. That is the
- 16 thing that I am always of concern. You know, you can
- 17 remodel us, you can massage us, give us a chance to run
- 18 for that Assembly seat.
- 19 If a person from Daly City were to run for
- 20 the Assembly seat and only a piece of Daly City, let's
- 21 take for example -- and Kevin Shelley has been our
- 22 representative for some time, and God knows, his family
- 23 goes all the way back to when his father was the mayor
- 24 of this city and congressman from this area, and then a
- 25 lobbyist in Sacramento, right now if a resident of Daly

- 1 City who lives in the piece of Kevin Shelley's Assembly
- 2 district runs for his seat, let's be practical, he has
- 3 to run against the entire City of San Francisco. And
- 4 his alliance and his services come from Daly City and
- 5 San Mateo County.
- 6 It's very difficult. That field is not
- 7 level. It's got a very deep step to run for the
- 8 Assembly seat.
- 9 That's my only message to you, Mr. Chairman,
- 10 is give us a level playing field, and then you have to
- 11 do the best you can, because you are being besieged by
- 12 the entire state to modify senatorial districts,
- 13 Assembly districts and the congressional districts are
- 14 going to get into this, the supervisorial districts in
- 15 our county are going to be redrawn. So everybody is
- 16 going to have a chance at speaking.
- 17 The only thing is to the best of your
- 18 ability, level the playing field so that we have an
- 19 opportunity to elect assemblymen to the 19th Assembly
- 20 District.
- 21 I'd love to keep it the way it is now, but
- 22 I'm a realist. You have to do your balancing act in
- 23 Sacramento. Let's not deceive ourselves in any way.
- 24 Give us our level playing field, Mr. Chairman, and I
- 25 will buy you lunch.

- 1 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much for
- 2 coming. I'll have to turn down the lunch because
- 3 it's -- in the context of the hearing, it, especially
- 4 being tied to the way the district lines are drawn, some
- 5 humorless judge might interpret that as having been --
- 6 MR. TAGLIA: Well, you didn't take me
- 7 seriously, did you?
- 8 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: No, no. I just need to
- 9 make sure it's clear that I'm turning down the lunch.
- 10 But some other time, perhaps. I appreciate it very much
- 11 and thank you for your kind words as well. We greatly
- 12 appreciate it.
- 13 Let me just double check that Council Member
- 14 Wan did not show up? And also that Leslie Cullum was
- 15 just perhaps late coming back? Either of those two
- 16 people here?
- 17 All right. Then the next person is Roger
- 18 Sanders. Is Mr. Sanders here? Okay.
- 19 And then I have Jerry Threet, if I'm
- 20 pronouncing the name correctly. Okay.
- 21 And then I have Dana Van Gorder, again if I
- 22 am pronouncing the name correctly. And I understand
- 23 some people had to leave, I appreciate that.
- 24 Christopher Bowman?
- MR. BOWMAN: Yeah.

- 1 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Okay. Thank you very
- 2 much.
- MR. BOWMAN: Yeah, B-o-w-m-a-n.
- 4 Let me actually first, for the record,
- 5 distribute copies of this so that you guys can get a
- 6 vacation from having to do that. I better get a copy
- 7 for myself.
- 8 And I beg your indulgence, I'll take probably
- 9 more than three or four minutes to go through the
- 10 statement. And I have two additional comments to make
- 11 based on the testimony that we heard today.
- 12 My name is Chris Bowman and I wanted to thank
- 13 you for the opportunity of testifying before your
- 14 committee. I have been involved with redistricting for
- 15 20 years, both on a partisan basis and a non-partisan
- 16 basis.
- 17 On a nonpartisan basis, I was a member of the
- 18 Elections Task Force of San Francisco in 1995 which
- 19 returned district elections to San Francisco, and we
- 20 were involved with line drawing of the districts. The
- 21 lines that, I might add, that were commended by members
- 22 of the Democratic party early in this hearing. So I
- 23 hope they'll remember that when we draw the lines again.
- 24 I'd like to talk about criteria. And I just
- 25 think that that's very important. I don't think anyone

- 1 has really gone into it in great detail, but I think we
- 2 need to have good government criteria that everyone's
- 3 working off the same page on. Not only the legislature,
- 4 but also community groups and individuals that are going
- 5 to be submitting plans to this body.
- 6 So my recommendations for criteria are as
- 7 follows. Districts should be equal in population using
- 8 the 2000 Census data, plus or minus one percent using
- 9 the state standard for one man, one vote, or five
- 10 percent using federal standard to keep communities of
- 11 interest intact and neighborhoods intact.
- 12 Districts should be geographically compact
- 13 except in sparsely populated areas.
- 14 Districts should be contiguous by land and/or
- 15 ground transportation so we don't have the phenomenon of
- 16 the Vallejo-Daly City District.
- 17 Four. Districts should be contained within
- 18 regional or sub-regional or natural or man-made
- 19 boundaries wherever possible.
- To the degree possible, communities of
- 21 interest, broadly defined, should be kept intact within
- 22 a district, and conversely, they should not be divided
- 23 or diluted. I would define "communities of interest" to
- 24 include and not only limited to political, meaning
- 25 Democrats, Republicans, Greens, et cetera, by

- 1 registration and by ballots cast for their candidates.
- 2 There are two ways of looking at that.
- 3 Ethnic, to not include only the four major racial groups
- 4 that came out in April on the Census which were
- 5 basically White, Hispanic, Black and Asian, but you have
- 6 sub groupings such as Chinese-Americans and
- 7 Philippino-Americans.
- Right now the Census data does not contain
- 9 that information. That will not be released until late
- 10 summer. And the Census department defines "late summer"
- 11 as possibly late July or August before you are going to
- 12 have detailed sub-ethnic data.
- 13 Economic, homeowners, renters, non-union or
- 14 union members, social, e.g., gay or non-gay, and
- 15 density, urban versus suburban, small town, rural or
- 16 sparsely populated.
- 17 To the degree possible, reflecting all of the
- 18 above criteria, county and city boundaries should be
- 19 respected when redistricting. That should not be the
- 20 primary criterion. I think that you need to look at all
- 21 the other ones as higher priorities and then look at the
- 22 integrity of boundaries.
- 23 The reason for that is if you look at the
- 24 City of San Jose, it's built like an octopus as far as
- 25 city limits. It made absolutely no sense except they

- 1 annexed those things that were available, those areas
- 2 that were available at the time that they were able to
- 3 do it. But it's not a cohesive mass. And it's
- 4 certainly not a compact mass. So I think you need to
- 5 take that into account.
- 6 Finally, I would suggest that the Legislature
- 7 continue with the criterion developed by the Special
- 8 Masters of the California Supreme Court in 1991 to -- I
- 9 misspelled this -- nest two Assembly districts into one
- 10 Senate district, and to nest ten Senate districts into
- 11 one Board of Equalization District. This provides for
- 12 more competition politically and basically eliminates
- 13 ballot types and confusion on the part of the voters.
- In keeping with my second proposed criterion,
- 15 and the second criterion is geographically compact
- 16 districts, I would ask that the nine counties of the
- 17 San Francisco Bay Area be viewed as a region. And since
- 18 the population of that region would allow for 16
- 19 Assembly districts and 18 Senate districts, plus or
- 20 minus 10,000 people, it's amazing, I have worked out the
- 21 math, and it's like 16.002, that those districts be
- 22 contained solely within the Bay Area.
- 23 Although the match does not exist as closely
- 24 for Congressional Districts, there would be fewer, I
- 25 would ask that the largest, to the largest degree

- 1 possible --
- 2 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Anybody want a cell
- 3 phone? We have one available. If anybody else has a
- 4 cell phone on, if they could please turn it off, we
- 5 would appreciate it.
- 6 Please go ahead and continue.
- 7 MR. BOWMAN: Thank you. I would ask in the
- 8 Congressional Districts to the largest degree possible
- 9 that the legislature create the optimum number of
- 10 Congressional Districts in the Bay Area that are solely
- 11 within the Bay Area region.
- In closing, it is important the diverse
- 13 communities of interest that constitute our state's
- 14 population feel they have received a fair shake in the
- 15 final product redistricting. The plans that you create
- 16 must pass the visual test, one that doesn't create the
- 17 grotesque elongated districts which made observers coin
- 18 the term "gerrymander" in the early 1800s, and which,
- 19 unfortunately, has served as a dubious model for
- 20 redistricting ever since.
- 21 Additionally, the plans need to pass
- 22 statistical test. Now, I don't know if anyone's
- 23 testified on this in any of your hearings so far.
- 24 For instance, and I'm not limiting the test
- 25 to these two measurements of race and partisan

- 1 affiliation solely, you can use other measurements as 2 well.
- But currently, under the Census Hispanic and
- 4 Latino and race statistic, the state's population is
- 5 46.7 percent White, 32.4 percent Hispanic or Latino of
- 6 any race, 10.8 percent Asian, 6.4 percent Black or
- 7 African-American, and 3.7 percent other or two or more
- 8 races.
- 9 The state's registered voters are 45.7
- 10 percent Democrat, 34.8 percent Republican, 2.0 percent
- 11 American Independents, all down there, and .9 percent
- 12 Green, and about 17.2 percent other.
- In a non-gerrymandered redistricting, if you
- 14 did non-gerrymandered redistricting where you didn't try
- 15 to compact or dilute groups, ideally 50 percent of the
- 16 districts would be created, that would be created would
- 17 be 46.7 percent White, 32 percent Hispanic and so on.
- 18 In other words, 50 percent above and 50 percent below.
- 19 The same thing would apply for partisan affiliation.
- To the degree that the number of districts
- 21 created by you are less than 50 percent, the public will
- 22 know the key voting blocks have been divided or diluted
- 23 and that the redistricting may successfully be
- 24 challenged in the courts or at the time polls. You are
- 25 subject to a referendum.

- 1 I wish you and your committee and your
- 2 colleagues in the Senate the best luck in your efforts
- 3 to provide an open and fair process which incorporates
- 4 good government criteria.
- 5 Couple of comments. We have heard many
- 6 representatives of Daly City who represent about 100,000
- 7 people in the Bay Area talk about the need that their
- 8 community be intact. I would wager to state that if you
- 9 look at roughly the 100 communities in the Bay Area,
- 10 about 20 or 30 of them are not intact currently.
- 11 So for the entire redistricting, say, for the
- 12 Bay Area, if we look at the Bay Area as a group of
- 13 6.7 million people, to be dictated by the will of
- 14 100,000 people in one corner of the Bay Area I think is
- 15 kind of having the tail wag the dog.
- 16 And I really think that you have to recognize
- 17 that there are a lot of issues involved. And strictly,
- 18 as I said, whether or not a city and its boundaries are
- 19 contained within one district or divided should not be
- 20 the primary criteria to use. It should be one criterion
- 21 after all the other criteria are met.
- 22 What I would suggest, though, is that if you
- 23 wanted to ensure that Daly City was not divided, what
- 24 would be required is that you would start at the
- 25 Mendocino-Sonoma border, go south, create an Assembly

- 1 district that goes down to Petaluma, create a district
- 2 in Petaluma, Marin County, and the northern two
- 3 supervisorial districts of San Francisco, then create a
- 4 District 12 that goes south and incorporates all of Daly
- 5 City and Pacifica and South City, and then on the east
- 6 side it would be a strictly San Francisco District for
- 7 everything that's left.
- 8 Now, just coincidentally, and this is really
- 9 bizarre, but of the 11 supervisorial districts that we
- 10 have in San Francisco, the average supervisorial
- 11 district is 70,600 people. If you multiply that times
- 12 six, that's equal to exactly, plus or minus one percent,
- 13 what an Assembly district is.
- 14 So I would recommend that when you look at
- 15 San Francisco that you lump six supervisorial districts
- 16 that have some communities of interest, racially and
- 17 ethnically and socioeconomic class and sexual
- 18 orientation or what have you together as one district,
- 19 and then parts thereof promotionally.
- 20 If you went by that plan, roughly half of the
- 21 district in which Daly City would occur would be in San
- 22 Mateo County. So certainly that would provide a level
- 23 playing field for the people in Daly City to be able to
- 24 elect their people.
- I'm not advocating that, but I'm just saying

- 1 that there are other alternatives than strictly starting
- 2 at the Golden Gate Bridge and working south.
- Finally, I will -- I may or may not be
- 4 appointed to the Elections Task Force in San Francisco
- 5 dealing with redistricting over supervisorial
- 6 boundaries. That remains to be seen, because the
- 7 appointment of the committee hasn't been created yet and
- 8 the appointments haven't been made.
- 9 But one of the problems we are going to have
- 10 locally is that we do have the aggregate Census data all
- 11 the way down to the block level for the major racial
- 12 groups. That's all we have. That's all you have.
- 13 That's all the Census is going to release until late
- 14 summer.
- 15 And frankly, I would be loath if I --
- 16 speaking locally, is how we are going to be doing it,
- 17 not how you are going to be doing it, but I would
- 18 suggest by inference that you should be concerned about
- 19 it as well, it would be loath for us to draw lines
- 20 strictly based on that data without it being subject to
- 21 either a referendum or to challenge in the courts.
- I think you are going to wait until you get
- 23 the detailed data from the Census which will be in late
- 24 summer and work from there.
- Now, that creates a problem. I have just

- 1 been informed by one of your staff that there is a bill
- 2 to move the primary back to June, and it was defeated.
- 3 I think that was a mistake. I think you need to
- 4 reconsider that, if you have a spot bill, fill it up
- 5 with moving the primary back to June and do it.
- 6 And the reason for that is that if you are
- 7 going to have a full and open process, and if you are
- 8 going to be dealing with the best data that's going to
- 9 be available -- and it's going to be available to the
- 10 courts, you know, once they adjudicate this issue -- is
- 11 that you are going to need about two to three months
- 12 from the time that the new Census data is released in
- 13 late July or August to be able to develop your lines and
- 14 to fine-tune your plans and have the public hearings,
- 15 and by that time it's going to be December, the deadline
- 16 I think that you have set at this point is September
- 17 27th. It can't be done.
- 18 Otherwise you are going to have about a
- 19 three-week window in which to do all the defined work,
- 20 and that's not a fair and open process. And I would say
- 21 the same thing to our task force once we form this
- 22 locally.
- 23 So that's my recommendations. Any questions?
- 24 I'll be glad to share some maps with you later if you
- 25 are interested.

- 1 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: We would welcome any
- 2 maps or other information that you might want to share
- 3 with us.
- 4 Let me just clarify one thing. When you
- 5 referred to the supervisorial districts in
- 6 San Francisco -- Supervisorial Council --
- 7 MR. BOWMAN: We have 11 districts rather than
- 8 five.
- 9 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: You referred to those
- 10 and were suggesting that we combine those, were you
- 11 suggesting combining existing districts or districts
- 12 which are yet to be drawn? The ones from ten years ago,
- 13 or the ones that are about to be drawn?
- MR. BOWMAN: Well, if you take into account
- 15 the testimony that was given before, I would -- it's a
- 16 good question. Some of our districts are not going to
- 17 have to be redrawn significantly, because their increase
- 18 in population was about the same as the city. Others
- 19 will have to be changed significantly in the southern,
- 20 eastern part of the city.
- 21 But my suspicion is that in the districts
- 22 that you are concerned about where you are going to be
- 23 looking at optimizing minority voting power,
- 24 particularly Filipinos, Asians and Hispanics, that those
- 25 will be fairly stable and you may very well be able to

- 1 use the existing lines. It would certainly be a lot
- 2 better guide than not using them at all.
- And the thing that's ideal about it is that
- 4 plus or minus, you know, whatever variance that they
- 5 currently are, six of them do equal one Assembly
- 6 district.
- 7 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Okay. I appreciate your
- 8 taking the time to come here.
- 9 I would note that if we used only the
- 10 criteria of numerical equality and attempted --
- 11 without -- without using any other criteria except that
- 12 one criterion and attempted to -- I'm not certain
- 13 whether we could guarantee that districts would be,
- 14 exactly half of the districts drawn would be 46.7
- 15 percent or greater anglo and so forth, my guess is that
- 16 as soon as we started taking any other additional
- 17 factors besides those statistics into account, it
- 18 becomes even more unlikely.
- 19 My guess is that if you look at the lines
- 20 from ten years ago which were drawn by the court that
- 21 they wouldn't meet the test that you have set up here
- 22 for half of them being above the average and half being
- 23 below the average.
- 24 The other factors which the court has
- 25 determined are appropriate to take into consideration in

- 1 all likelihood precluded them from meeting that test.
- 2 MR. BOWMAN: Actually, I did study what
- 3 happened in the '91 Special Masters thing. I can't
- 4 attest for the ethnicity, but I can attest for the
- 5 affiliation, that at that time Republicans were 39
- 6 percent, and at that time 50 percent of the districts
- 7 were 39 percent republican. And I don't know about the
- 8 ethnicity.
- 9 But you're right. Every box that you create
- 10 makes it more difficult to be able to do it.
- 11 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Right.
- 12 MR. BOWMAN: Again, I'd like to go back about
- 13 the new Census data that's not going to be released.
- 14 You heard a lot of testimony that said that race should
- 15 be a factor.
- 16 But there are other issues involved such as
- 17 housing patterns, ownership versus non-ownership and
- 18 what have you. We don't have that data right now and we
- 19 won't have that until the new data comes out.
- 20 And so if, you know, to protect yourself from
- 21 legal challenge, I think you absolutely need to wait
- 22 until you get that data for line drawing.
- Thank you.
- 24 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much for
- 25 taking time to come here today. We appreciate it.

1	MR. BOWMAN: You're welcome.
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- 1 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: And next I believe I have
- 2 Mr. David Martz. And following, let me just see, I have
- 3 Mr. Lawrence Fargher and Harry Britt, if Harry is still
- 4 here. I don't know, he may have left the building. Fel
- 5 Amistad. So Mr. Martz.
- 6 MR. MARTZ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and
- 7 Committee Members. My name is David Martz, M-A-R-T-Z.
- 8 I am a realtor out of San Jose in Santa Clara County,
- 9 and my power rates are too high. Oh wait, wrong
- 10 commission. Little humor here to make maybe the day go
- 11 a little faster.
- 12 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: That's all right. This
- 13 meeting is all about power. That's what people are
- 14 talking about.
- MR. MARTZ: I'm a third generation realtor born
- 16 and raised in the Willow Glen-Rose Garden area of San
- 17 Jose, which is the uppermost part of -- maybe western
- 18 uppermost part of the 23rd Assembly District.
- 19 I'm here today due to the fact that that small
- 20 area representing zip codes 95125 and 95126 are not
- 21 representative of the rest of the 23rd AD. They are
- 22 demographically different and much more similar to the
- 23 22nd Assembly District. Not only that you've heard
- 24 today through various things such as communities,
- 25 community services, but maybe some quantitative numbers

- 1 basically here showing average sales prices,
- 2 demographics within these areas.
- 3 The Willow Glen area, the first quarter of
- 4 2001, had an average sales price of single-family homes
- 5 of \$656,000. This is rounded to the nearest thousand.
- 6 While the rest of the 23rd AD, the eastern portion, the
- 7 average sales price was 434,000. The southeastern
- 8 portion of the 23rd AD the average sales price being
- 9 429,000. And the central portion of the 23rd Assembly
- 10 District average sales price being 499,000.
- Once again Willow Glen being at 656,000 is much
- 12 more similar to the 22nd AD. Average sales price in
- 13 Santa Clara, part of the 22nd AD once again, is 541,000,
- 14 while average sales price in the Sunnyvale area is
- 15 655,000. Once again just a basic analysis of the
- 16 similarities demographically within the 22nd and 23rd
- 17 AD. And growing up once again in the, what is currently
- 18 the 23rd AD, and now raising my own family within that
- 19 Assembly District, would like to see this portion of the
- 20 23rd AD, being the Willow Glen-Rose Garden area, zip
- 21 codes 95125 and 95126, incorporated into the 22nd
- 22 Assembly District. Great. Thank you so much.
- 23 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much for
- 24 taking the time to be here today. We appreciate it.
- 25 And next I have, if present, Harry Britt,

- 1 former Supervisor Britt has left, all right. Fel
- 2 Amistad, A-M-E-S-T-A-D. Am I -- okay. Okay. I may
- 3 have skipped one, one moment. I've got Mr. Fargher.
- 4 No, I don't think so. Let me see, I have some people
- 5 who had -- who had -- I'm sorry, what's your name, sir?
- 6 MR. FARGHER: Fargher.
- 7 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Oh, Mr. Fargher, I'm
- 8 sorry, you are the very next one. I'm jumping ahead.
- 9 You're in, you're in. Come on up, you're next. My
- 10 staff was trying to correct me, Mr. Guerrero here, and I
- 11 was ignoring his good advice. Thank you for --
- 12 MR. FARGHER: Well, like that other politician
- 13 from Daly City, I appreciate not only your decency and
- 14 stuff today with the people that have been here, because
- 15 I've been here since the beginning and it's been a long
- 16 haul, and I appreciate how you've run it. But in
- 17 addition to that, I appreciate your sense of humor,
- 18 which makes ours not so bad.
- 19 My name is Larry Fargher, I'm former mayor of
- 20 Santa Clara, and a 30-year realtor in Sunnyvale and
- 21 Santa Clara. I was mayor when you were a boy in 1964,
- 22 '65. And in '66 I ran for this seat after the
- 23 reapportion. I've been around now for about four
- 24 reapportionments, '60'S, '65, '70's, '80, '90, and here
- 25 we're doing the 2000.

- But when this was reapportioned mid term in '65
- 2 we had a new senate seat created in Santa Clara County
- 3 and Al, Al Quist, you know, ran for that. And so John
- 4 and I, Vascansales, ran in the primary against about
- 5 four or five others, and John and I finished one-two,
- 6 and unfortunately for me I finished two. So I had to
- 7 get rich while John got, you know, lots of these
- 8 hearings.
- 9 But at any rate, I did want to say that I know
- 10 this, what this used to be the 24th Assembly District,
- 11 and I know it pretty well. And in '72 I even ran
- 12 against John as a republican, so I saw it both sides.
- 13 And I guess a comment that I would like to make
- 14 in the community concept is that Mountain View, which
- 15 was part of the district when I ran and is part now,
- 16 does not look to San Jose as its Mecca. Mountain View
- 17 focuses north and looks at Palo Alto and the peninsula.
- 18 I mean, you know, they really are not -- except that we
- 19 have some common electronic firms and maybe Yahoo moves
- 20 from Santa Clara to Mountain View. Other than that
- 21 Mountain View doesn't have much commonality with us.
- 22 They are on another side of Highway 237, and they just,
- 23 they focus to the north. They do not focus towards San
- 24 Jose.
- 25 Santa Clara, on the other hand, has to pretty

- 1 much be in the same ballgame with San Jose, because, you
- 2 know, they hug us all around. And so -- and we do have
- 3 a large common -- there is amazing how many common
- 4 interests that we have in that area with the Willow Glen
- 5 area and with particularly with the Rose Garden and some
- of those areas. So besides the concept of making Santa
- 7 Clara whole and getting the people north of Bay Shore
- 8 into it, it would seem to me much more common sense to
- 9 have kind of the center of the valley, the Campbell,
- 10 that whole area kind of be a centroid, which it has been
- 11 for a long time.
- 12 And now we have Al Quist, the -- Al Quist's
- 13 wife term limited out, and so we're going to have new
- 14 soldiers there. So you can create a new district that
- 15 doesn't effect an incumbent, which is kind of important.
- 16 And so I just hope that you will give that concept some
- 17 thought. Because if you have to give up some soldiers,
- 18 Mountain View really doesn't march in our Army. And so,
- 19 you know -- and I used to be with those guys on the
- 20 Innercity Council and all that, and I know them all, but
- 21 they really are another world. They are the Palo Alto
- 22 and north peninsula world. They are not the center of
- 23 the valley world. We're the heart of Silicon Valley, of
- 24 course.
- Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

- 1 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: I thank you for your kind
- 2 comments. Appreciate it.
- 3 Our next -- let me just real quick run through
- 4 names and make sure I haven't missed anyone here. I'm
- 5 going to read very rapidly one more time names of people
- 6 who have not come up when the names they've been called
- 7 because I believe they left. Mary Rosas, Danny Wan,
- 8 Carole Cullum, Roger Sanders, Jerry Threet, Dana
- 9 van Gorder, excuse me, Gorder, I'm not sure, and Harry
- 10 Britt. If any of those people were here I want to make
- 11 sure they get a chance.
- 12 Next I have Fel Amistad. And the microphone is
- 13 yours. Can you go ahead and spell your name for the
- 14 record.
- MR. AMISTAD: Sure. F-E-L, and then Amistad is
- 16 A-M-I-S-T-A-D. Thank you, your Honor, and Gentlemen of
- 17 the Assembly. My name is Fel Anthony Amistad. I am
- 18 testifying on behalf of the Coalition of Asian
- 19 Americans, Pacific Americans for Fair Redistricting of
- 20 Northern California. I reside in the peninsula, San
- 21 Mateo, City of San Mateo, County of San Mateo. And I've
- 22 lived in this area for the last ten years. I've also
- 23 lived in other parts of the Northern California, but
- 24 I've spent most of my formative years in this area.
- The reason I've come up here basically is to

- 1 testify before you about the reason we need to be aware
- 2 that changes in assembly district lines, the result of
- 3 these changes on the changing population numbers in
- 4 Northern California, and the end result of these
- 5 changes. We respectfully ask that you consider the
- 6 communities of interest that exist in this region. Such
- 7 common bonds as housing, working, commuting, housing and
- 8 shopping issues will arise as a result of this
- 9 redistricting. We want to have fair representation. We
- 10 deserve to have fair representation.
- 11 There are common interests that unite us as a
- 12 community within the Daly City, South San Francisco and
- 13 Colma cities. There are many issues that we've
- 14 considered in the past and which we'd like to discuss.
- 15 For the purposes of this hearing we would refer
- 16 to the tri-city area simply as the South San Francisco
- 17 region. We talk about housing, affordable housing in
- 18 the area. That is my line of work. I am in the real
- 19 estate profession. I am a mortgage and real estate
- 20 broker, and have been so for the last 16 years. I
- 21 understand that high housing costs in this area have
- 22 forced a lot of families to flee eastward.
- 23 Because of the strong close-knit and extended
- 24 families that have lived in Daly City, South San
- 25 Francisco and Colma, we have been very sensitive to the

- 1 needs of such extended families and have asked our
- 2 political leaders to listen to needs from affordable
- 3 housing to better schools and so forth. It makes our
- 4 perspective on issues very critical, and to help shape
- 5 such political agendas we'd like to have a say in how
- 6 our leaders are represented and how we are represented
- 7 in the assembly.
- 8 As far as business, I am a businessman and have
- 9 been so for the last two decades, and I understand the
- 10 needs that every one of us have in lower taxes, lower
- 11 crime and so forth. Without belaboring the point about
- 12 why we need to have fair representation and why there
- 13 should be a level playing field, we'd like to emphasize
- 14 the need for more and in-depth analysis, and to have
- 15 additional hearings on other issues which we won't have
- 16 time to discuss today.
- 17 In closing, many folks and many people in my
- 18 community, Northern California, have come to me and
- 19 asked me about what issues press them the most. And I
- 20 think the expansion of BART, Cal Trains, the expansion
- 21 of Highway 280 and 101 into the city and into Silicon
- 22 Valley are very important issues. I think because we
- 23 need to have fair representation, having the political
- 24 leadership who represent people in our region, will be
- 25 vital to the success of this redistricting. And I hope

- 1 that we could have more in-depth hearings, maybe more
- 2 analysis.
- 3 As a Filipino American I don't consider this an
- 4 ethnic or racial issue. I think it's more an issue that
- 5 pertains to the whole community in large. And because
- 6 everybody works and lives together in this area, I think
- 7 everybody has a say in this. And I think only through
- 8 these hearings will we be able to come to a reasonable
- 9 and fair conclusion. Thank you very much.
- 10 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much for
- 11 taking the time to come here today, Mr. Amistad. We
- 12 appreciate it.
- Next I have -- by the way, we don't have a lot
- 14 of them left, as you can tell by looking around the
- 15 room, Supervisor Chris Daly's representative Bill
- 16 Barnes. Okay. Mr. Barnes is not here. Norman Rolfe or
- 17 Rolfe, R-O-L-F-E. Okay. Susan Brissenden-Smith. And
- 18 I'll alert the next person will be Beverly Blythe with
- 19 Community Cares.
- 20 MS. BRISSENDEN-SMITH: Thank you, Chair. I
- 21 would like to reiterate what others have said about your
- 22 attitude and your presence here today and your
- 23 attention.
- 24 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: You're very kind. Thank
- 25 you.

- 1 MS. BRISSENDEN-SMITH: So thank you. At the
- 2 risk of repeating Daly City again, I do represent the
- 3 Daly City Colma Chamber of Commerce. I'm the CEO, and
- 4 our board of directors has come out in opposition of
- 5 further splitting of Daly City in our representation.
- 6 And it comes -- we have submitted a letter so I'll just
- 7 make this brief.
- 8 It really is an issue of difference of
- 9 interest. The majority of Daly City is a bedroom
- 10 community. The Chamber of Commerce is made up mainly of
- 11 small business. If we were to have our representation
- 12 further eroded, we already have a piece of Daly City, as
- 13 you know, that is represented by one of your committee
- 14 members. It becomes difficult for our voice to be
- 15 heard. So once again we would encourage the committee
- 16 to attempt, even though we don't want to wag the dog, to
- 17 keep Daly City whole. We would appreciate that
- 18 consideration.
- 19 And as one gentleman earlier said, some
- 20 communities sort of look northward, some look around,
- 21 some look southward. Daly City is much more a part of
- 22 San Mateo County than it is San Francisco. We look to
- 23 the south. And our interests are more down in the
- 24 peninsula. It would be very difficult for Daly City to
- 25 compete for attention, if you will, with San Francisco.

- 1 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much for
- 2 taking the time to come here today as well. Appreciate
- 3 it and thank you for your kind comments.
- 4 Ms. Beverly Blythe? Okay. Let me run through
- 5 the names one more time because that's all the list I
- 6 have. First let me ask is there anyone in the room who
- 7 sent for one of these and it somehow got goofed up and
- 8 we didn't have it? Anybody in the room who had -- is
- 9 there anyone left in the room who had wanted to speak?
- 10 That would be faster than reading through the names one
- 11 more time. All right. I believe we've got that.
- 12 I want to apologize for those persons. There
- 13 are obviously a number of people who came here this
- 14 morning, and by the time we were finished they were
- 15 unable to stay. We apologize for the fact that we know
- 16 many people couldn't wait. We will welcome additional
- 17 testimony, as I mentioned earlier, in written form, by
- 18 mail or by being sent to our web site. We also invite
- 19 participation.
- 20 Everyone who signed up for us and gave us their
- 21 address will be notified of the final hearings that will
- 22 be held. Whether some additional ones are held in this
- 23 area or if we have a link, a video, audio link for one
- 24 in Sacramento, whatever we do we'll make sure that the
- 25 individuals who signed up today and were unable to wait

- 1 that they get notice of that. And we do welcome their
- 2 input, everybody's input. And that's the last cell
- 3 phone for the day, too.
- 4 So with that, ladies and gentlemen, thank you
- 5 very much. I want to remind you that there are still
- 6 additional hearings in other locations. I believe the
- 7 information is still sitting out on the table. Let me
- 8 just real quick review with Mr. Guerrero, anything left
- 9 that you know? Mr. Yoakam, anything we need to cover
- 10 before we finish? Mr. Sokol, anything? All right.
- 11 Thank you all for being here and this hearing is
- 12 adjourned.
- 13 (Whereupon, the proceeding adjourned at 2:53 p.m.)

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1	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER
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3	I, COREY ANDERSON, a Certified Shorthand
4	Reporter, hereby certify the foregoing proceedings were
5	taken down in shorthand by me, a disinterested person,
6	at the time and place therein stated;
7	
8	I further certify that I am not of counsel or
9	attorney for either or any of the parties to the said
10	proceedings, nor in any way interested in the event of
11	this cause, and that I am not related to any of the
12	parties thereto.
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15	DATED: JUNE 1, 2001
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20	COREY ANDERSON, CSR NO. 4096
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3	I, DIANE M. WINTER, a Certified Shorthand		
4	Reporter, hereby certify the foregoing proceedings were		
5	taken down in shorthand by me, a disinterested person,		
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8	I further certify that I am not of counsel or		
9	attorney for either or any of the parties to the said		
10	proceedings, nor in any way interested in the event of		
11	this cause, and that I am not related to any of the		
12	parties thereto.		
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20	DIANE M. WINTER, CSR NO. 3186		
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